

# HALESOWEN CHRONICLE



Thursday, August 30, 2012

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## Convoy cause

Widow unveils memorial for heroes of the sea

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## Head out

Teacher visits students in Africa to forge links

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## A bad bend

Teenage rider disappointed as he falls off during race

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## Ex-station set to be replaced by homes

HALESOWEN'S former ambulance station will be demolished and replaced with seven homes after plans were given the green light.

Knarsboro Homes Ltd has applied to Dudley Council to knock down the building in Old Hawne Lane.

The proposals have now been given the go-ahead by council planners.

In a supporting statement submitted with the planning application, Knarsboro Homes said: "West Midlands Ambulance Service will benefit primarily from the proceeds of the property sale, but will also be rid of the burden of disproportionately high commercial rates and the general running costs of operating from an old building."

The station was one of 10 in the Black Country put up for sale by West Midlands Ambulance Service as part of the Make Ready Scheme.

It will see traditional ambulance stations replaced with a higher number of smaller community bases.

The scheme also involves the creation of two new maintenance hubs operating 24 hours a day in Willenhall and Dudley.

The station in Halesowen closed in April and operations are based at Trinity Point in Halesowen.

## Axe is used in shop raid

AXE-wielding robbers threatened shop workers and delivery drivers at two Dudley stores - tying them up in one of the terrifying raids - before fleeing on a motorbike with cash.

Raiders struck at the Spar store, Lawnswood Road, Worsley, threatening staff and a delivery driver with the weapon.

They were tied up by the robbers who stole cash before escaping on the bike towards the A449.

It follows a robbery at a newsagent in Lake Street in Lower Gornal.

# £10,000 LIFELINE TO KRISTIAN'S GYM

by Adam Burling

**THE gymnastics club that started Olympic bronze medalist Kristian Thomas on his road to glory has been granted a cash windfall to help pay for new equipment.**

The Earls Gymnastics Club in Halesowen, is struggling to make ends meet as it faces a funding crisis. But it has been given nearly £10,000 by Dudley Council after club chairman John Caulwell held discussions with council officers.

Ward councillor Ken Turner helped the club apply for the grant from Halesowen Area Committee community funds. Talks are also ongoing into any external funding that the council can help Mr Caulwell apply for. Five coaches have already been laid off this year as the £100,000-a-year running costs are paid solely from membership fees as the club receives no other grants from the council or sports bodies.

## Big revamp for zoo will start in 2013

A LONG-AWAITED revamp of some of Dudley Zoo's most famous buildings, including its iconic wave entrance, will get under way next year.

The programme of work for the restoration project, being funded with the help of Heritage Lottery cash, has been drawn up. The Safari Shop, Kiosk and Bear Ravine enclosure are in line for a makeover as part of the scheme, which follows the renovation of the chairlift.

The famous Tecton buildings, which date back to 1937, were made using pre-stressed concrete and architects were able to mould it to create attractive enclosures to fit in with the surrounding landscape and the steepness of the Castle Hill site.

But time has taken its toll on the structures and now repairs are needed to help the zoo continue to use some of the buildings.

Zoo spokeswoman Jill Hitchman said: "Work will start on Safari Shop in September 2013. Once completed, work will begin on the entrance, with a completion date of Spring 2014 - both of these will be done out of the main visitor season.

The repairs on the Bear Ravine and Kiosk will be carried out during the main tourist season because they are further away from the main visitor attractions.

The zoo has been granted Heritage Lottery funding of £1.15million for the work.

Kristian, of Wednesfield, Wolverhampton helped win Great Britain's first medal in the team event for a century when they won bronze at London 2012.

As well as helping win a bronze for Team GB, Kristian made a valiant bid for a medal in the individual men's gymnastics. A stumble during the vault left him in seventh place.

The £9,814 will go towards a new ring frame, parallel bars, a pommel horse, vault tracks and coaching blocks.

The total costs of the equipment needed is close to £13,000 but Mr Caulwell says the grant will be a "massive help".

He said: "This is a very significant contribution to keeping the club going. We desperately need equipment so the money would just go towards that."

### Fireworks

"It seems things are moving in the right direction. It just needed a spark to make people notice, but we got a complete fireworks display with Kristian's performance in the Olympics."

Kristian was given a hero's welcome at the Furnace Lane club earlier in the week and spoke of his hope that its future would be secured.

He has trained there every week since he was five and said he believed the publicity from his Olympics campaign would help.

He added: "Hopefully we are coming to a turning point in the club's history because it has really struggled recently."

"I wouldn't be anything without the coaches at this club and there are lots of amazing athletes here that compete at top levels."

There are currently five international competitors training at the club along with Kristian, including Mr Caulwell's 13-year-old son, Harry, who is a member of the Great Britain squad.

## Richard's a super slimmer



Before he lost more than seven stones, Richard Leah, of Halesowen, in 2010

A SUPER slimmer who has battled the bulge for years is celebrating after losing almost half of his body weight.

At his heaviest Richard Leah from Rowley Regis was 17 stone and 10lbs.

He has now lost lost seven stone and two pounds - a total of 100 pounds - in just over two years.

The 33-year-old of Gorsty Hill Road, said: "I was really worried about having a heart attack or developing diabetes. I was living in large clothes with elasticated waist bands, that covered a multitude of sins."

Mr Leah said he was working in a stressful job during his 20s and he would comfort eat to deal with it.

His diet included takeaways, chocolate chip cookies and muffins.

He added: "I would look in the mirror and I knew I had to make a change, or else I was going to get ill."

It was his mother who inspired him to join Weight Watchers in March 2010.

He said: "She started to go to the club in Blackheath, and I thought I would give it a



The new slimline Richard shows off his super trim look after the weight loss

try, I thought why not?" Rather than count calories Mr Leah used the club's points system to watch what he ate.

He said: "The weight started to come off really quickly and I lost the first stone very fast. So I just stuck at it."

He later moved to the Halesowen club at Cornbow Hall on Hagley Street and said since joining his whole attitude to food has changed.

"When I look at pictures of how I used to be. I just don't recognise myself, I look completely different," he said.

"I am much more confident and a happy with the way I look, and I just feel so much better in social situations."

Since the start of his weight loss success Mr Leah has got a new job working in an administration at an NHS Community Health Centre in Highgate Birmingham, and he is now training for the Bupa Birmingham half marathon.

He added: "I never would have considered running a half marathon before, but now in my training I am running six miles a day."

## Students celebrate results bonanza

PUPILS across Dudley and Wyre Forest were celebrating after getting top grades in their GCSEs.

Students at Holy Trinity International School, Kidderminster managed a 100 per cent pass rate again.

And 95 per cent got pass grades including English, maths and science. Pass rates of 88 per cent for English and 78 per cent for maths are new records for the school. Students who achieved nine or more A\* or A grades included Zakir Gul, Demi Hughes, Luke Rose and Jennifer Wilkes.

At Stourbridge's Old Swinford Hospital School, 91.21 per cent got A\* to C in five or more subjects. The number with five A\*-C grades including English and maths at Crestwood School in Kingswinford rose 11 per cent, while 99.3 per cent passed overall.

At Bishop Milner Catholic School in Dudley, 75 per cent achieved five A\*-C grades, with 69 per cent getting those grades including English and maths. The overall top performer was Kishan Patel, who got 10 GCSEs with nine at A\* and one at grade A.

Pupils at Haybridge High School in Hagley are celebrating their most successful year yet, with 99.4 per cent getting five A\*-C grades, with 89 per cent getting the grades.

## Partners on ads charge

FOUR partners in a Halesowen garage have appeared in court accused of advertising misleading information to sell a car.

John Webb, aged 56, and Melanie Webb, 53, both of Heath End Road, Belbroughton, near Stourbridge, John Webb, 28, of Shelton Road, Halesowen, and Richard Chamberlain, 31, of Furlong Lane, Halesowen, all denied the allegation.

They are partners in John Webb & Son in Shelton Lane, Halesowen. The case was adjourned until December 20.

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## NEWS

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## Little heroine Isabel helps grannie



Jean Hill and six year old granddaughter Isabel

A SIX-year-old girl has been hailed a heroine after rushing to her grandmother's aid when she collapsed during a suspected heart attack.

Isabel Evans, of Lower Gornal, reassured Jean Hill, 56, and rubbed her back while her husband, Tim, dialled 999.

The pupil at Lower Gornal's Roberts Primary School has been praised for staying calm and not panicking. The youngster was visiting her

grandparents, who are originally from Wollescote, at their Tewkesbury home when Mrs Hill was struck with crippling chest and arm pain.

Isabel kept her calm while Tim, 55, who suffered a heart attack himself two years ago, spoke to ambulance staff on the phone.

Quick-thinking Isabel even loosened her clothes to help relieve the pain. Supermarket cleaner Mrs Hill, who moved to Tewkesbury two years ago,

said: "I was playing Lego with Isabel when I started getting these pains."

"They got worse and worse and I was really worried after what happened to Tim before. We thought I must be having a heart attack."

"Isabel came over and started rubbing my back and saying 'it's all right nanny, it will be ok'."

"She hasn't had any first aid training and most girls her age would have been in bits but she kept calm."

## £2.1m centre welcomes visitors on opening day



Aonghus Gordon, Sarah Bond and Susan Vaile

**A £2.1MILLION arts centre created at a former glass factory in Dudley has opened after nearly a year of extensive restoration and refurbishment.**

The Glasshouse Arts Centre, in Wollaston Road, Amblecote, was officially opened last week.

It has been created at the Lower Glasshouse building, which once formed part of the Webb Corbett glass factory and later Royal Doulton.

The centre has an auditorium for 400 people, a studio theatre for 70 and two commercial workshops.

It also incorporates the Webb Corbett Visitor Centre, which tells the story of the area's glass heritage through displays and interactive

screens. Old machinery used in the glassmaking process is also on display and visitors can learn more about the history of the site.

It shares the same site as the Ruskin Glass Centre and has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, which provided £1.85m and £250,000 came from Arts Council England.

## Cultural

The centre is designed to be an artistic and cultural hub for the community and will be used for theatre performances, conferencing and hospitality events.

Local groups will be able to use the site for shows or events while at the same time providing training for the future generation of glassmakers.

The opening event, held in the



The opening of the Glasshouse Arts Centre, in Wollaston Road, Amblecote

Lehr Theatre, started with an introduction by Aonghus Gordon, founder of the Ruskin Mill Trust.

Councillor David Sparks, as well as Sarah Bond, of Arts Council England, and Susan Vaile of the Heritage Lottery Fund, were at the opening of the new centre on August 23. Visitors were then taken on a tour.

It is the second phase of development on the site following a £1.4 million refurbishment of the Ruskin Glass Centre at the end of 2010.

The Ruskin Centre now houses 18 businesses providing jobs for more than 30 people and is host to community, business and cultural activities.

The opening was timed to coincide with the launch of the International Festival of Glass. There has been no

time wasted in using the centre as it is hosting this year's British Glass Biennale, an exhibition of glass pieces which will be the centrepiece of the festival.

The site was bought by the Ruskin Mill Trust in 2000 with the objective of keeping the tradition of glass trade in the area alive.

## Commercial

Glasshouse College principle Ollie Cheney said: "This kind of development allows improved awareness of the history and heritage of the area."

"It also creates more workspace for commercial activity and supports essential opportunities for the students of Glasshouse College."

"I believe the development will ensure the continued regeneration of arts, culture and commerce at the site."

## Housing plans for former station

A FORMER ambulance base in Stourbridge which closed earlier this year could be demolished to make way for housing.

Horgan Homes and Developments Ltd wants to knock down the redundant building in Margaret Drive, Oldswinford and build four, three-bedroom, detached houses. The station was put on the market for £150,000 earlier this year as part of a shake-up of services across the Black Country.

Other stations in Halesowen, Oldbury, Wombourne and Cradley Heath are also being sold off.

Proposals for the housing scheme in Stourbridge have been lodged with Dudley Council.

In a design and access statement, submitted with the plans, agent James Stafford says the scheme includes a private access road, garages and parking spaces for the homes.

This proposal will be sustainable by developing a redundant site and providing homes for four families," he said.

The statement adds: "The proposal will generate fewer traffic movements than the ambulance station and allow adequate parking spaces."

## Help group gets award

A GROUP that helps people with learning disabilities develop new skills has been given a council award.

The Green Team is a small business based at Dudley Canal Trust in Pear Tree Lane and was set up in March 2011 to provide support services for people with learning disabilities.

In the 18 months since it started it has 17 people regularly attending. It helps get people involved in gym sessions, swimming and gives advice on healthy eating.

The team is first to be awarded the gold quality mark by Dudley Council.

## Guided walk date

A SIX-MILE guided walk, taking in Kinver Edge and the famous rock houses nearby will set off from the Comber Road entrance, next to the warden's lodge, on September 23 at 10am.

The Kinver Colour Walk will cost £2 each to join. To book call 01562 712822.

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## Battle to save hall goes on

CAMPAIGNERS have vowed to collect more signatures as their battle to save a former meeting hall in Halesowen gathers pace.

They want to ensure the old Sons of Rest building, on land between Alexandra Road and Wall Well, is reopened for the community and not sold off by Dudley Council, as planned.

More than 80 people attended a recent meeting to air their views and lend their support to the campaign.

Councillor Donella Russell, who is leading the campaign, says the group wants to create a petition to add weight to their campaign.

"It was good to see so many people at the meeting," she said. "I have got lots more signatures to collect for a petition over the next few days."

The building had also previously been home to Huntingtree Seniors Leisure Centre but this was closed last year by Dudley Council.

The council wants to sell the site as it is deemed surplus to requirements.

The next meeting will be on September 18 and anyone interested in using the building can call Councillor Russell on 07887 610717.

## Awards for businesses

BLACK Country businesses that have spurred on sporting success in the area are to get their own awards.

Nominations are being sought for the Black Country Sport and Physical Activity Awards. One of the 16 categories is Business Contribution to Sport.

Firms that have shown initiative by promoting sport, or sponsored events or clubs can all be recognised. Nominations will close on September 14. See [www.the-blackcountry.com/beactive/](http://www.the-blackcountry.com/beactive/) contact joanne\_taylor@blackcountryconsortium.co.uk or call 01384 471139.

## Fete for charity

A CHARITY fete will be held at a Dudley supermarket to raise funds to support cancer patients.

It will take place at Asda, in High Street, on September 1 in aid of White House Cancer Support.

The fun day will take place in the car park at the back of the store from midday to 6pm.

# Councils use big brother tactics on crimes

SURVEILLANCE powers were used by councils in the region to catch out fraudsters and fly-tippers almost 600 times over the past four years, with Dudley Council being among the smallest users, claim new figures.

Local authorities set up spying operations to catch dodgy dealers and people who do not clean up after their dogs.

Figures released under the Freedom of Information Act reveal the use by councils of the Regulatory Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA), which was set up under anti-terrorism measures.

But some campaigners have fears over the use of the law.

Big Brother Watch has called for a clampdown on its use, saying that the powers can be open to abuse.

Walsall Council was the biggest user of the act in the Black Country and the fifth largest user in the whole country, having carried out 202 operations under RIPA since 2008.

It mainly used it to watch people cheating with their housing benefit claims, fly-tipping, anti-social behaviour and trading standards operations.

But the figure also included nine cases of "staff working privately while absent on sick leave and insurance claims from injured parties".

Dudley Council only invoked the act 18 times, 14 of them in 2008/9. Most were for catching people selling alcohol to children.

Sandwell Council used it 179 times, all for trading standards, environmental health and allegations of supply of drugs following public concerns.

Wolverhampton City Council had 168 operations including rogue traders,

benefit fraudsters, noise nuisances and shadow car dealers. It had one instance of watching a "dog fouling hotspot".

Cannock Chase used it 14 times for fly tipping, dumping and a case of dog fouling.

In Stafford it was used nine times and South Staffordshire Council used the act four times against fly-tippers.

Lichfield District Council carried out three operations to watch fly-tipping in 2008/9, and Wyre Forest District Council has twice watched suspected benefit fraudsters.

# Pub aiming to be brewing beer again after 150 years

**BREWING could return to a Dudley pub after more than 150 years if new plans are given the green-light.**

The Fownes Brewing Company wants permission to turn outbuildings at the Jolly Crispin pub in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, into a brewery.

Plans have already been submitted to Dudley Council and, if approval is given, bosses from the brewing company hope the new site will be up and running and producing local ales by the end of October.

Eight casks of ale would be produced every week to start with but Fownes has plans to expand rapidly once production has started.

It is hoped the brewery will be sending out up to 1,500 pints a week by the end of 2013.

Fownes brewery was launched by brothers Tom and James Fownes, both of Sedgley.

### Festivals

It will be run as a separate business to the pub but will supply it along with providing beer festivals with ale.

The brewery also aims to supply cask beer for parties and events.

Bottle conditioned ale will also be available from the dwarf brewery once production starts.

Bosses at the brewing company have already

built most of the equipment which will be used for the brewing which they hope will keep start-up costs low.

Officials at the pub have supported the development and said it would be a boost to have on-site facilities after so many years.

The facility is called a dwarf brewery due to its small size.

Fownes was launched in May and supplied its first cask of Frost Hammer ale to the Jolly Crispin in July.

Tom, aged 28, of Wolverhampton Road East, who is the main brewer, said: "We are very excited by this prospect."

James, 32, who lives on The Ridgeway, added: "This will be a family venture."

The last time the pub served its own ale was in the 19th century when it also provided accommodation.

by Lee Watton



Geoff Fitzpatrick prepares to embark on a mammoth trip to the south coast using only his bus pass to raise cash to help save the former Dudley Hippodrome

## Bus trip to boost campaign

A CAMPAIGNER leading the fight to save the former Dudley Hippodrome will raise cash by embarking on a 180-mile trip to a seaside town - using only his free bus pass.

Geoff Fitzpatrick and volunteers are trying to secure the theatre's future. The 70-year-old, retired college lecturer will hop on 16 buses from his home in Halesowen to Brixham, to raise money for the campaign.

Mr Fitzpatrick, chairman of the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome, was due to start his three-day journey this Wednesday morning on the 202 to Bromsgrove from near his home in Howley Grange Road.

He will spend a night in both Wotton-under-Edge in the Cotswolds and Cullompton in Mid-Devon along the way before reaching Brixham on Friday.

Mr Fitzpatrick, whose wife Joan died last year, said: "Ever since I found out you could go all across the country using a bus pass it is something I have wanted to do. Brixham is a lovely place so I thought it would be interesting to take a trip down there on the buses, and hopefully it will get people interested in the Hippodrome campaign."

To sponsor Mr Fitzpatrick, email gfitzpatrick@hotmail.co.uk

## NEWS in brief

### MP is backing Village scheme

WYRE Forest MP Mark Garnier has voiced his support for the Big Lottery Fund's Village SOS scheme.

The programme makes grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 to rural communities who want to set up social enterprises.

Applications are welcomed from communities with populations of fewer than 3,000.

Village SOS has already helped shops, cafes, pubs and transport schemes.

### 100 cannabis plants at house

MORE than 100 cannabis plants were found after six masked men were seen breaking into a house in the West Midlands.

It is believed the gang got away in a white Vauxhall Astra van following the raid at the house in Rednal, near Halesowen.

When police arrived at the house in Beverley Road there was no-one there but a drug factory was found inside with at least 100 plants.

Police said they believe the break-in at the address was probably connected to the drugs.

### Housing scheme for ex-care home

A FORMER care home in Stourbridge will be converted into housing.

The property in Mere Road, Norton will be turned into two houses - one with two bedrooms and the other with three bedrooms.

Proposals for the development were submitted to Dudley Council by Red Line Trade Services.

They have now been approved.

### Contest to get hands on grants

GRANTS of up to £1,000 will be up for grabs in a Dragons Den-style competition being staged by Bewdley Round Table.

The money has to be used for a project to benefit the Wyre Forest. An event is due on October 19. To apply email bewdleyroundtable@hotmail.co.uk saying what the funds would be used for.

### Pub hit by arson

A DERELICT pub in Dudley was targeted by arsonists. Fire crews from Dudley, Brierley Hill and Tipton were called to the fire at the Gypsy's Tent Steppings Stone Lane.

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## NEWS

## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



A PAL of the 1950s vintage reports a wedding at the weekend where he found a friend of the same age glumly contemplating the company. "I was wondering where the old folk were," he explained. "It's us, isn't it?"

□□□□□□□□

IN BRITAIN, armed police protect him from intruders. In Afghanistan, the Gurkhas protected him from the Taliban. Unfortunately, in a hotel room in Las Vegas, there was no-one to protect Prince Harry from himself.

□□□□□□□□

THE ONLY appropriate response to what the media coyly describe as the prince "cavorting" or "romping" in the nude is a long, world-weary sigh. The lesson of the past few hundred years, from the Prince Regent via the Abdication to the Charles and Diana fiasco, is that young princes of the Royal Family can be enormously popular and do a lot of good work. But the moment we make the mistake of expecting them to behave themselves, it always ends in tears.

□□□□□□□□

NEWS from the front line in the row over extending Sunday opening. A reader who works in a big electrical store says he earns the minimum wage and gets no more for working on Sundays than any other day. If he asks to opt out of Sunday working, he is quite likely to be penalised through the clause in his contract which says he must be prepared to work for any branch within a 25-mile radius. The penalty for turning down a six-hour Sunday shift could be a nine-hour weekday shift miles from his home and up to three hours' travelling per day. So he "volunteers" to work on Sundays. I am sure not all stores treat their employees like this but if you still cling to the belief that Sunday shopping is wonderfully liberating, it's a story worth bearing in mind.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Traders building case for roadworks payouts

TRADERS are drawing up compensation claims for tens of thousands of pounds when long-running roadworks finish in October.

Some traders are pleading for immediate help amid fears they will go out of business in Rowley Regis and Halesowen – but National Grid says they must wait until the end of the 26-week project. Bosses are drawing up their applications to

## Fares rise attacked

A RAIL passenger support group in the Midlands has slammed plans to increase fares by six per cent.

Commuters face a greater-than-expected 6.2 per cent hike in average fares after official figures revealed a shock rise in the inflation rate.

The Stourbridge Line User Group (Slug) which represents passengers using the Worcester to Birmingham railway line, says rises will be introduced at a time when most farepayers can least afford an increase.

Group Chairman, Rob Hebron said: "The increase is unjustified and the formula is completely wrong."

"The notion that the extra income will be reinvested in the West Midlands railway network is laughable."

"I wish we could separate public transport and politics."

make up for losses during the work in Coombs Road and Gorsty Hill Road. One pub landlady claims to be losing £1,500 a week.

Another pub boss claims he is on the brink of going out of business due to the works. Traders say there is a lack of parking spaces due to the works, and customers are being put off from visiting the area as they get stuck in traffic.

Dalvinder Kaur, who is the owner of the Olympia chip shop in Coombs Road, says she is losing £500 a week and will be applying to get it back.

Meanwhile, Stephanie Cox, who runs the Bell and Bear pub, Gorsty Hill Road, said she was drawing up a compensation claim to cover the £1,500 a week she is losing.

She added: "I doubt I will get anywhere near all of it back but I need to do something."

"The problem is that I need help now, not when it has all finished."

National Grid spokeswoman Jane Taylor said: "We have a compensation scheme."

## Convoys memorial unveiled



Phyllis Coyle, aged 84, with the memorial she has paid for at the arboretum

A £20,000 memorial paid for by a widow as a tribute to sailors who risked their lives to deliver supplies to Russia during the Second World War has been unveiled.

Phyllis Coyle, aged 84, commissioned the monument and gathered with family, friends and ex-servicemen for an unveiling ceremony at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas.

Her late husband, Mick, served as stoker with the Royal Navy between 1942 and 1947 and sailed with the Russian convoys for four tours.

He was disappointed there was no lasting memorial to the convoy crews.

Following his death from lung cancer, aged 85, in November 2010, Mrs Coyle, of Derwent Close, Pensnett, decided to fulfil his wish and commission the memorial.

She also paid more than £4,000 for the unveiling ceremony and organised transport for those who wished to attend.

The ceremony started with a procession led by around 20 standard bearers from armed forces associations.

## Town in tribute to RAF heroes

THE heroes of the Battle of Britain will be honoured with a special service and parade in Dudley next month.

Dudley Council will pay tribute to the airmen on September 16.

The day will include a service at St Thomas and St Luke's Church, known as Top Church, a parade by Air Training Corps and the laying of wreaths at the cenotaph in Ednam Road.

Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Melvyn Mottram, said: "This is an ideal opportunity to come out and show your support for the armed forces, and remember the huge sacrifices these people made for us in the Battle of Britain. It is important we never forget the role of the Royal Air Force."

A parade of cadets will set off from Priory Road at 11am. The route will continue along New Street, Market Place and High Street. A church service will take place at St Thomas and St Luke's Church at 11.30am. The service will be followed by a parade past the Council House in Priory Road, where the mayor and a representative from RAF Cosford will receive a salute.

## Fete's new date

THE Mary Stevens Hospice fete, cancelled in July will now take place in the grounds on September 8 from 11am.

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## Theft turns store into sweat shop

CUSTOMERS and staff at a Stourbridge store were left sweltering during the recent heatwave after metal thieves caused almost £60,000 worth of damage to its air conditioning system.

The air conditioning plant on the roof of Wilkinson's has been attacked twice this year.

The latest raid, in which vital components were stripped out to sell for scrap, has left the High Street store without a cooling system during some of the hottest days of the year.

The shop is now waiting for replacement parts to arrive to repair the system.

One customer, retired civil servant Robert Haywood, aged 68, of Oakleigh Road, Oldswinford, Stourbridge, said: "Unlike many shops in Stourbridge, the temperature in Wilko is always just right - not too hot nor too cold."

"So I was surprised when I popped in to find it was like a Turkish bath. I asked one of the check-out staff why it was so hot - and she told me the air conditioning system had been stolen from the roof."

West Midlands Police are appealing for any information that could help catch those responsible for the theft.

## Castle deal

CAMPAIGNERS hoping to buy a castle near Kidderminster have agreed a price of £2.45 million. The Hartlebury Castle Preservation Trust reached a deal with the Church Commissioners.

# Platform to keep an eye on progress of archives work

PEOPLE in Dudley can keep an eye on the progress of building the new archives and local history centre from a viewing platform. The £6million base is being built next to the Black Country Living Museum on Tipton Road, Dudley.

Dudley Council's archives service will relocate from its building in Coseley and when the new building opens it will also be used to store documents for Sandwell Council. Hoardings around the building site have been decorated with old pictures.

## Thief caught taking scrap

A THIEF who loaded a skip containing £1,700 of scrap metal on to a lorry after using the vehicle to ram through gates at a Dudley firm has been jailed for 16 weeks.

Philip Dicken, aged 49, was caught by police just 20 yards from Dudley Safes Ltd, Lower Gornal, after struggling to get away with the haul at around 8.30pm on July 11. Dudley Magistrates Court heard Dicken decided to steal it after drinking strong cider and taking cocaine.

The court heard he had reversed through the gates of the firm in Deepdale Lane, before loading the skip. Miss Lynda Gudgeon, prosecuting, told the court: "He was arrested for the theft and officers noticed he smelled of alcohol and his eyes were glazed," she said. Tests had shown he had 123 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of urine. The legal limit is 107 milligrams. He was also found to have been driving while disqualified and the damage to the gates was valued at £500. Dicken, of Johnson Street, Bilston, pleaded guilty to theft, criminal damage, driving while disqualified and using a vehicle without a test certificate and while over the legal alcohol limit. Mrs Dawn Foxall, defending, said her client had accepted he was going to prison.

Visitors can now keep an eye on how work is going.

It can be accessed from a door which is within the hoardings on the site, which once was home to the old Brierley Crystal shop.

The centre is expected to open to the public next summer and will provide IT and public Wi-fi services, education and conference rooms, a hi-tech conservation studio, a rare books library and research area a well-equipped search room and free car parking.

### Funded

The centre is being part funded by the European Regional Development Fund, as part of their cash outlay for the redevelopment of the Castle Hill area of Dudley. Artist's impressions showing how the base will look when it is completed have also gone on display at the construction site.

The council says it is committed to preserving and protecting the borough's historic collections which date back to the 12th century. Dudley's cabinet member for housing, libraries and adult learning, Councillor Khurshid Ahmed said: "The viewing platform located above the construction site gives a brilliant view of the site."

The viewing platform is open to anyone from 9am until 5pm, Monday to Friday.



Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet member for libraries and adult learning, and Dudley Council archivist Gillian Roberts viewing work progress on the site

## NEWS in brief

### Special tour laid on of development

RESIDENTS involved in a multi-million pound housing development in Dudley were taken on a special tour recently to see how the works are progressing.

They were given the chance to see the final stage in the transformation of the former North Priory housing estate.

Work began earlier in the summer to build another 214 homes on the new development, now known as Friars Gate following the successful completion of the first phase earlier this year.

### Vulcan Works to go for auction

THE Vulcan Works in Lye will go under the auctioneer's hammer next month.

The former premises of hardware manufacturers Rhodes & Cartwright are being sold at property agents CP Bigwood's auction on Thursday, September 6, at 11 am in the Holte Suite at Aston Villa's Villa Park ground.

The works are currently in the hands of the administrative receivers and have a guide price £450,000.

### Inquest on man, 75, is adjourned

AN INQUEST in Stourport on a 75-year-old man from Wolverley who died in a care home after falling ill has adjourned.

John Green, of Sobright Road, died at Herons Park Nursing Home, Kidderminster.

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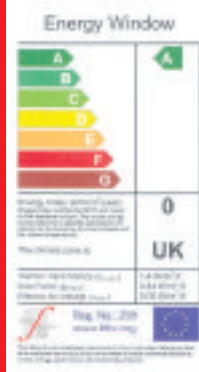
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## NEWS

# Help will be offered to 700 'troubled families'

MORE than 700 "troubled families" in Dudley will be offered help as part of a government scheme aimed at tackling problems which are often passed from generation to generation.

Funding will be provided in a bid to encourage more children to return to school and get more adults back into work. The programme also aims to reduce anti-social behaviour problems.

Council chiefs will be looking to cut crime and tackle issues such as domestic abuse, teenage pregnancies and social care interventions.

Dudley Council will receive £4,000 per family as part of the three-year scheme. It will be given £665,600 initially in 2012/13 as well as £100,000 funds to employ a co-ordinator to run the programme. It is hoped the cash will help to turn around the lives of 740 families with 250 set to benefit during the first year.

The council will be targeting families who have no working adult in the household; have children who are failing to regularly attend school and have family members involved in crime or anti-social behaviour.

Councillor Tim Crumpton, said: "Dudley is already building on, and increasing capacity within its existing family intervention programme."

"This involves an individual worker being assigned to a family to co-ordinate and provide the support the family requires."

It is estimated "troubled families" cost the public purse around £9 million every year.

## Club to hold charity night

A CHARITY night will be held at the Royal British Legion club, Lower Gornal on September 1.

The club will raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support from 7.30pm. There will be entertainment from a 'Take That' tribute band and a soul and motown disco. Entry to the club in Ruiton Street is £4.

## Head's visit forges links



Headteacher Ross Workman visiting children in Tanzania

A STOURBRIDGE headteacher has visited Tanzania to forge links with a school.

The trip to the Diocese of Morogoro in the African country is part of the Global Schools Partnership run by the British Council.

Ross Workman, headteacher at Oldswinford Primary School, flew to Dar es Salaam and then took a three-hour bus journey to Morogoro to spend 10 days there.

He said: "I've done something similar in previous schools and forming a partnership like this can bring a lot of value. Part of the

project is showing our children that there is as much the same as there is different between the two schools." During the visit, he worked with teachers and school leaders in Kihonda Maghorofani Primary, sharing experiences and making suggestions for developing teaching techniques.

The school has more than 1,500 students in 14 classes, with an average class size of about 100. He added: "There were many opportunities to share and learn from each other." Headteachers from Tanzania will visit the UK in November.

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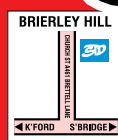
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## LETTERS

## Differing shows of sportsmanship

WITH less than a month having passed since the closing of that magnificent spectacle the Olympic Games, a celebration of everything that is great and inspiring within sport, and a fortnight of true sportsmanship such as has probably never been witnessed on the planet.

It was outstandingly noticeable that there was a total lack of spitting by any competitors on any of the fields of play, and although on numerous occasions in certain disciplines an athlete may have received a red flag for being an inch or so over the run up mark, or a gymnast taking half a step forward or backward

on dismantling their particular piece of apparatus, never was the least sign of dissent shown.

Fast forward three weeks to the start of the new football season and we see spitting all over the place, and if a referee dares to have the courage to blow his whistle for an infringement of the rules the miscreant is immediately nose to nose with the referee disputing his decision, normally supported by at least four or five of his wildly gesticulating team mates.

This must be extremely intimidating for the poor referee who is after all totally surrounded by a gang of very

young, very fit, very angry and very spoiled football players.

It is a matter of conjecture as to the outcome of such a confrontation had these millionaire, playground bully boys ever had the misfortune to go head to head with one Jack Taylor, a referee who I don't doubt for a minute would have had the guts to abandon the game should the circumstances call for it.

Isn't it about time the FA toughened up the rules and the punishment with regard to the intimidation of match officials?

B PARSONS  
Coseley

## Road fines hit you in the pocket in the past

RECENTLY I found two of my old driving licenses. Offences are listed below.

In 1967 exceeding 30 mph on a residential road - fined £10.

In 1971, for driving through Tittensor on the A34 (restricted stretch then of less than half a mile on a dual carriageway with unlimited speed limit) at more than 40mph. This offence I would strongly dispute even now. Fined £6.

In 1974 exceeding 30mph - fined £12.

In 1976 Driving vehicle without due care and attention. Fined £35.

From 1965 until 1981 I was employed as a sales rep, driving 30,000 miles plus, per year. Thirty six years ago, the fines then really hit my pocket. What do current fines do now in comparison?

PETER COLE  
Kingswinford

## LETTERS to the Editor

## POST

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Wikid needs all the support it can get

AFTER reading the two very sad articles regarding Wikid Pets, Wolverhampton, I decided to visit them to give a little much-needed support.

The articles told of their possible closure by Christmas unless more financial support was forthcoming due to the ever present society "low lives", who'd decided to break into this small exotic animal zoo and steal from their tea room.

From the many smiles I saw on the visitors that day, from both young and old, it would be a travesty if this little oasis was lost to its community.

To be honest, I'm sick to death of reading the number of animal cruelty stories, which sadly do need to be reported, but here is a group of unpaid, hard-working folk, dedicated to animal welfare by giving us all the chance to see them.

So, if you're stuck for somewhere to take the family, I'd recommend Wikid Pets for a wicked time out. They're near to Dunstall Race Course, you'll find everything you need to know via your computer search engine and of course, you'll be doing your own bit for local animal conservation.

STEVE FORD, Kingswinford

## Nurses at Russells Hall were excellent

WE are always reading about complaints with Russells Hall Hospital.

I want to make an exception. Last week, my 60 year old mother Jan Evans, spent seven days being cared for by the nursing staff assigned to the C8 station 3 of Russells Hall Hospital.

Eleven days, two shifts each day, brought my mum into contact with numerous nurses - all of who performed caring, courteously and professionally.

My heartfelt thanks and appreciation go out to each and every one that cared for her. No matter how excellent or exceptional the staff performs as a team, there are always those who excel and exceed.

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## NEWS

# Council's bill for mobile phones is over £700,000

DUDLEY Council has paid out the lion's share of almost £2million spent on mobile phones for the region's authorities during the past two years, new figures show.

Around 11,000 handsets are available for use by staff at authorities in the region. A total of £1,918,760 was paid out between April 2010 and March 2012 which includes the cost of buying phones, line rental and calls.

Council bosses say the phones are used only by staff who need them for their work and the costs are regularly reviewed to keep them low.

Dudley Council paid out the most with a bill of £727,078 for its 3,047 phones.

Sandwell Council, which provides 2,453 phones, spent £542,425 during the two year period.

The authority's ICT strategy and client manager Andy Nicholls said: "Mobile phones are given to staff who need to use them as part of their jobs, and we constantly review contracts to ensure that prices are kept as low as possible."

"In 2011/12 there were 2,453 phones available for staff use, however we are currently in the final stages of a project to reduce this number and hence make considerable savings."

The bill in Wolverhampton was £378,000 excluding VAT and the council had 1,749 phones.

Some of the money was spent on USB dongles for laptops.

In Walsall a total of £163,010 was spent on mobile phones for council staff during the two years. The authority had 1,503 handsets on its books. The figures were released by the local authorities under the Freedom of Information Act.

## Barns proposal passed

DUDLEY planners have given approval for seven barns to be converted into homes at Foxcote House Farm, Wynnall Lane South, Wollescote, Stourbridge.

## Lock down for auction



Landlady Jo Mee gets ready for a fundraising afternoon at The Lock in Wolverley

A PUB will help raise cash for a leukaemia charity – inspired by a man's fight with the disease.

The event, which features an auction and the band Murmur, is at The Lock in Wolverley on September 16 at 4-7pm. Proceeds will go to Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

It has been organised by Lock landlady Jo Mee, whose father Chris was diagnosed with leukaemia in May.

The 28-year-old is organising the

event with friends Gio and Emily Perry. She said: "Dad has always been really healthy and was getting ready to run his 15th marathon so it came as a real shock."

"He never drank or smoked so it just shows that it can happen to anyone."

"I wanted to do something to help the charity as hopefully one day they will be able to find a cure."

Firms have donated prizes for a raffle, including Cue & Brew in Kidderminster.



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## NEWS

# Olympic stars will hand out first fun run medals

## Lose pounds to gain them



OLYMPIC stars, including Kristian Thomas, will hand out medals at the finishing line of the first road fun run to be held in the town where he trains every week.

The London 2012 bronze medallist will be joined at the Halesowen event by fellow Olympian Jess Varnish and Paralympics hopeful Helen Scott, who are both members of the town's cycling club. Organisers hope up to 500 runners will join the 5km street race on September 16.

Halesowen and Rowley Regis Rotary Club is calling on residents and businesses to back the event.

Money raised will go to Birmingham Children's Hospital, the Midlands Air Ambulance and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Kristian, from Wednesfield, Wolverhampton made history when he helped secure a bronze medal in the Team GB gymnastics squad – the first time British men have done so in a century.

He was greeted by hundreds of fans last week when he returned to the Earls Gymnastics Club, in Halesowen.

Jess, of Bromsgrove, missed out on a medal in the sprint final after she was disqualified along with partner Victoria Pendleton, meanwhile Helen is taking part in the Paralympics as an able-bodied tandem pilot in the cycling with visually impaired star Aileen McGlynn.

Kristian said: "Events like the fun run are really important and hopefully it will encourage people to get into sport."

"The Olympics have been great and we need to build on that."

Rotary member and fun run organiser Alan Bowler said: "It will be a very proud moment for the town."

## Knit and natter session

THE Areley Kings Women's Institute's regular 10.30am "knit and natter" sessions at Stourport Library will resume on September 4.

Runners Craig Matharu and Matt Ward will be running for charity. A HOTEL manager is losing and gaining pounds – by running for charity.

Matt Ward, aged 36, general manager of The Copthorne at Merry Hill has already lost almost two stone after starting his training for the Great North Run just three months ago. He and The Copthorne's revenue manager, Craig Matharu, aged 31, are both joining in the 13.1 mile run from Newcastle-upon-Tyne to South Shields on September 16 for the British Heart Foundation.

"I was an overweight hotel manager three months ago but have

dropped from 15 and a half stone to 13st 9lb – and by the time of the run I will have lost two stone," said Matt, of Heath House Drive, Wombourne.

Craig, of Wordsley, who plays for Dudley Kingswinford Rugby Club, is covering up to 40 miles in his training. The Copthorne at Merry Hill has raised about £1,500 for the British Heart Foundation, the charity of the year for the hotel chain. And Matt and Craig now hope to match it through the Great North Run and a special night at Wolverhampton Racecourse on August 31.

To sponsor Matt and Craig visit: [www.justgiving.com/mattandcraig1](http://www.justgiving.com/mattandcraig1).

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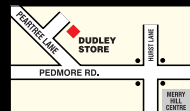
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## NEWS

## NEWS

## in brief

**Men are attacked while at the pub**

TWO men were assaulted in a smoking area at a pub.

A group of friends were at the Golden Lion in Chalford Road, Bromsgrove, when one of the men in their group was attacked by two other men.

One of his friends tried to intervene but he was also assaulted.

The two victims suffered face injuries and were treated by paramedics. The attack happened at about 8.20pm on August 5.

The men are both white and in their early 40s. One was about 5ft 11ins with short, thinning, greying hair. He was wearing a white t-shirt with a red logo on and had a northern accent.

**Petition calling to improve crossing**

A PETITION of more than 400 names calling for better crossing facilities at a busy junction near two schools in Halesowen has been handed in to council chiefs.

Residents say pedestrians have to dash across the junction of Furnace Hill and Haden Hill Road before traffic lights change. It is used by hundreds of pupils at Halesowen College and Earls High.

**Movies meeting**

BEWDLEY Civic Society is to meet at 7.30pm on September 19 at Bewdley Baptist Church. The talk is Bewdley Movies by Kenneth Hobson.

# Surprise discovery returns soldier's will after 70 years



Gordon Heaton

**A SOLDIER'S will has finally been reunited with his family in the Black Country – nearly 70 years after he died – when it was found tucked away in a garage.**

The document has found its way to its rightful owners thanks to a nine-month search by staff at a bus company, who found it languishing, covered in dust on top of the lost property shelves at a Birmingham garage. The will was made by Private Gordon Heaton, of Handsworth, Birmingham, and was found accompanied by a letter dated November 9 1944 to his family, informing them of his death in battle on August 27 of the same year, at the age of only 21. Now his great-nephew, David Hall, aged 51, of Halesowen, has come forward to collect it on behalf of the family, including Private Heaton's brother, John, who is now aged 80 and lives in Handsworth.

National Express staff were taken by surprise when they spotted a War Office envelope from 1944 as they cleared out the lost property office at Acocks Green bus garage ready for a refurbishment. They made a public appeal to try to find the family – but it was only when Mr Hall started research into his family history recently that he heard about the find via the internet.

**Document**

Mr Hall, a retired production supervisor for a fork lift truck manufacturer, said: "It means a lot to me to have this document. I have only just started to look into my family history and to find something this interesting which has been out of our hands for several decades is incredible."

"I am delighted to be able to take rightful ownership of this on behalf of my family, most importantly my great uncle John – Gordon's brother."

Private Heaton is buried in Vernonnet Cemetery in Normandy France alongside 15 other members of the Worcestershire Regiment. In his will, he left his belongings to his mother, Florence Heaton.

Christine McDaid, administration controller for National Express West Midlands said the company gets thousands of items handed into lost property every week.

"This is an incredible part of family history," she added.

## Homes plan for old hotel

PROPOSALS to turn a fire-hit hotel into apartments will go before planners within weeks.

The Mount Hotel in Clent was abandoned for three years after shutting down suddenly following a severe blaze during a wedding reception in July 2008.

The site was snapped up by a mystery buyer in December. An application has now been made to convert it into homes. The plan is for seven apartments, along with three detached houses nearby.

A decision on whether to grant planning permission is expected to be made at the Bromsgrove District Council planning meeting on October 15.

The plans have sparked objections from neighbours who are worried about traffic.

Martin Grange, a chartered surveyor who lives yards from the property, says he agrees it needs to be developed but adds in a letter to the applicants: "I note it is proposed to demolish much of the existing building with only the front tower section remaining which will be extended at the rear and converted into flats."

"I am surprised that you would allow a longstanding building in a conservation area to be demolished."

## Staff ready for charity walk



Staff and residents from Himley Mill are preparing for a charity walk

STAFF and residents at a nursing home in Dudley will be doing their bit for charity by taking part in this year's Black Country Memory Walk.

The fundraiser, in aid of the Alzheimer's Society, will take place at Dudley Zoo on September 22. It will generate vital funds

for people with dementia. A group of 30 workers and residents from Himley Mill Nursing Home have signed up. Participants can choose from a 1.5km, 5km or 10km route.

Manager Elizabeth Whitwell said: "Many people have heard of dementia but know little about it until it touches their lives."

## Buildings will open to show heritage

TWO civic buildings in the Dudley borough are to open to residents as part of a day celebrating the area's heritage.

People can look behind the scenes at Dudley Council House and Stourbridge Town Hall on September 8.

The events are being staged as part of English Heritage's annual Open Day event.

The council house, in Priory Road, will be open from 11am to 3pm and will include a guided tour of the Council Chamber and a talk on the day-to-day workings of the authority.

Tours will take place at 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm and 2.30pm and people can also see the Mayoral badge, chain and mace.

Visitors will also be invited to join Dudley's Mayor Councillor Melvyn Mottram for tea in the Mayor's Parlour, Stourbridge Town Hall will also be open from 10am to 3pm when residents can see exhibits from the Black Country Society and Stourbridge Historical Society.

For details, log on to [www.discoverdudley.org.uk](http://www.discoverdudley.org.uk).

## 500 job offers

MORE than 500 jobs are on offer at Worcestershire's Jobs Fair next month.

The event, organised by the county council, is on September 12.

For details either visit [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/jobsfair](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/jobsfair) or call 0300 123 1440.



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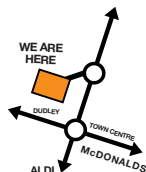
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## NEWS

# Recycling scheme aims to cut bill for pavements

## Chairs giving zoo a lift



Visitor Rikerra Clulow gives the thumbs up to the chairlift



Ups and downs – visitors to the zoo taking a leisurely ride

THE chairlift at Dudley Zoo has opened to the public for the first time in 12 years after a £117,000 revamp.

Families queued for a ride on the attraction, which has been fully restored. It will give people panoramic views of the borough from the top of Castle Hill.

The three-month project to

restore the lift included shot-blasting and painting of the 41 chairs and refitting all 76 wheels in the roller mechanism.

Zoo chief executive Peter Suddock said: "We are so thrilled; one of the most common questions we are asked by national and overseas visitors is 'When's the chairlift going to be running?'"

RECYCLED materials are being used for pavements in Dudley as part of a £57,000 trial to cut costs.

The surfaces in Darby End Road and Vale Road, Netherton, are being reconstructed to save around £9,000 – 15 per cent of the cost of labour and materials.

If it proves successful council bosses will consider using the technique across the borough. They say it helps reduce waste and carbon emissions.

The process involves removing the existing asphalt, heating it to 180 deg C, adding in a chemical asphalt rejuvenator to help bind the material then relaying and compacting it.

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The recycling process should run until early September. It is hoped that the final surface course will be finished by the end of September.

Councillor Judy Foster, cabinet member for transportation, said: "The use of recycled asphalt is quite new to us but it's something we're keen to trial, especially as it provides a saving of nearly 15 per cent on standard pavement replacement."

"It also reduces waste, transport costs and carbon emissions."

Peter Shone, managing director of highways maintenance contractor JPCS, said: "We are really excited to be working with Dudley on the footway recycling scheme, which is a very innovative and efficient process, with many environmental benefits which help sustain the local economy."

## A quiz night for cancer

AN ANNUAL quiz will be held in Dudley in aid of breast cancer charities – after raising nearly £60,000 over the last 11 years.

The event at the Earls Suite at the Copthorne Hotel, Brierley Hill on November 12 starts at 7.30pm. Organisers are appealing for prize donations. It costs £80 per team.

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## NEWS

# Free office furniture up for grabs from council

**COUNCIL bosses are spending up to £450,000 on furniture, fittings and equipment at their new multi-million headquarters in Kidderminster.**

It is now giving away its old desks and chairs. Wyre Forest District Council said the surplus furniture and equipment was either no longer fit for purpose or did not fit in the new development.

Council leader John Campion has invited Wyre Forest voluntary and charitable organisations to bid for the furniture and equipment at no charge.

Around 200 council staff will be moved to the new headquarters from other council-owned or operated offices around the district.

Older buildings owned by the authority are expected to be sold off to raise the cash for the £10 million development.

Councillor Campion said: "Obviously we have re-used as much furniture as possible in the move to our new building, but as in any relocation there is furniture that is either unfit for purpose or simply doesn't fit. "We have decided to deal with the surplus furniture by giving it away locally as it's the most cost-effective disposal for the Council."

Free items available include meeting chairs, workstation chairs, small tables, three and four-drawer desk pedestals, workstations, bookcase shelves, three-drawer desks, desk lamps and desk fans.

The council had planned to move into the building at Pinepoint Business Park, near Stourport, at the start of September.

But bosses have been told BT is unable to install vital data links as scheduled. Anyone interested in the furniture should email Holly Wilson for a form by August 31 at holly.wilson@wyre-forestdc.gov.uk

## Bookies plan approved

PROPOSALS to turn a shop in Market Street, Kingswinford, into a betting office have been approved by members of the Dudley Council planning committee.

## BB's Andy back home



Contestants, from left, Luke Anderson, Adam Kelly and Deana Uppal

A FORMER LA gang member from Walsall, who came third. Adam, Dudley who finished second in this year's Big Brother has returned home and said he now plans to use his new found fame to give something back to the community.

Adam Kelly returned to his home town and was joined by fellow contestants Luke Anderson, who won the contest, and Deana Uppal, of

Walsall, who came third. Adam, from Oakham Road, showed his fellow housemates some of the sites of Dudley, including the statue of Duncan Edwards. Adam, 27, was raised in Los Angeles where he became a member of the infamous LA Crips gang. He moved to Dudley a year ago and says he now sees the Black Country as his home.

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SIXTY photographs of Her Majesty the Queen including the work of leading press photographers of the past six decades, are being brought together for a display at Windsor Castle to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.

The exhibition presents a portrait of the Queen's reign as captured in fleeting moments on both official occasions and at relaxed family gatherings.

You will also be able to see and enjoy the magnificent state apartments furnished with some of the most splendid works of art from the Royal Collection, whilst St George's Chapel is one of the finest examples of Gothic architecture and the spiritual home of the Order of the Garter. A peek at Queen Mary's dolls' house, the most famous dolls' house in the world with its electric lighting and running water is also one of the many highlights this official royal residence has to offer.

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## Bad weather is a factor in fall of number of fires

FIRES started through arson or by accident have fallen over the past year across the West Midlands and Staffordshire, according to new figures.

Both counties have reported a decrease in secondary fires.

These are smaller blazes usually in outdoor areas, such as on grass or heathland, and are traditionally the most common type of fire tackled by crews at this time of year.

The recent bad weather has been cited as a key factor in the reduction in secondary fires started deliberately this year.

In June 2011, West Midlands Fire Service was called to 235 secondary fires started accidentally and 694 deliberately.

In July, this rose to 342 accidental fires and 1,023 deliberate.

But this year there were 122 accidental secondary fires and 249 deliberate in June and 165 accidental and 382 started through arson in July.

The drop has also been reflected in Staffordshire with 23 accidental and 204 deliberate secondary fires in June 2011 rising to 29 accidents and 298 caused by arson in July.

But this year only six accidental secondary fires were reported in June and 82 blazes started deliberately.

In July this year there were seven accidental and 108 deliberate.

Both fire services said they also believed the reduction had been helped by the bad weather and through stepping up awareness schemes over the summer months.

## Health centre proposals

PLANS for two multi-million pound health centres in Lye and Pensnett will go before health chiefs for final approval. NHS Dudley needs to get the go-ahead from West Midlands Strategic Health Authority before work can progress.

Under the proposals, a £6million medical centre will be built in Lye and a £3million centre will open in Pensnett. They will offer a range of community services as well as housing doctors surgeries. Business plans for the schemes are being drawn up and will be submitted.

Further work on finalising the cost of the builds will then be carried out.

The proposals for the Lye scheme

have also been submitted to the council and a decision will be made at a later date. It would house the Limes Surgery in High Street and the Pedmore Road Surgery which would relocate to the centre along with the Health for Lye shop.

There would also be treatment rooms for physiotherapy, podiatry, speech and language therapy.

### Counselling

Midwifery and community nursing teams and counselling services would on site, with space outside for a mobile breast screening unit. Plans for the Pensnett centre which will serve up to 6,000 patients, were approved by Dudley Council in June.

It will replace a petrol station and snooker hall in High Oak and house High Oak Surgery as well offering specialist treatments such as physiotherapy, speech and language therapy and midwifery.

An NHS Dudley spokeswoman said: "We are in discussions with West Midlands Strategic Health Authority (SHA) with regard to two new builds."

After the complete outline business plans have been submitted to and approved by the SHA these plans will be worked up to full business case stage and will only be finally endorsed for building work to start once we reach financial close.

## Lives are celebrated

THE working lives of Dudley's residents through the generations are celebrated in a new book by a historian.

Author Ned Williams has written more than 40 books on the region and collated thousands of images.

The 66-year-old was born in Ilford, Essex, before moving to Dudley in 1962 and living in the town until 1974 when he moved to Wolverhampton. His latest book, Brierley Hill at Work, has more than 200 photographs.

The book will be launched on September 7 at Bank Street Methodist Church, Brierley Hill at 7.30pm.

## Huw's hair hewed off for Italian job



Huw Hides from St Andrew's Church, Sedgley has had his head shaved to raise money for a trip to Italy



From left, Vanetta Griffiths, Luke Morgan, Charlotte Perry, both aged 18, Paige Morris, 17, Huw Hides, Lynne Donovan and Emily Donovan

A TEENAGER shed his long locks to raise cash for a visit to Italy working with deprived children and the homeless.

Huw Hides, aged 18, went under the razor at St Andrew's Church, Bilston Street, Sedgley, last week raising around £200 towards his trip.

He was sponsored by family, friends and members of the church in support of his goal to raise £4,350 for the journey overseas. Huw, who has just finished his A-levels at King Edward VI College, Stourbridge, will travel out to the Reggio di Calabria region of Italy on October 13.

He work from at a church in the region and at a soup kitchen set up to help deprived children and the homeless. Huw, of Bilston Street, said: "I have been planning for the head shave for a while now."

"I have had long hair for the past seven years and thought it would be a surprise to people."

"Everyone has been really supportive and I have raised around £200 towards the trip." He can be supported via [www.justgiving.com/huwhides](http://www.justgiving.com/huwhides)

## Campaign launched on fire safety for elderly

FIRE service chiefs have launched a campaign to increase awareness of fire safety among people working with the elderly or vulnerable.

The Olive Branch scheme has been kicked off by Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service to help people identify potential fire hazards and risks in the home.

The service is offering free training to organisations that have workers in daily contact with vulnerable members of the community.

Each training session lasts around 90 minutes and can be held at the organisation's own premises.

The training is based around a case study, a PowerPoint presentation and a hazard awareness DVD, with audience participation encouraged. Due to the format of the presentation, a computer and a projector are required.

To find out more email [pahope@hwfire.org.uk](mailto:pahope@hwfire.org.uk) or call 0800 0321155.

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**CLUB NEWS**

**Morning  
trek in aid  
of charity**

**CHASETOWN  
TOWNSWOMEN**

TO CELEBRATE the Queen's Diamond Jubilee guild members held a Jubilee Strawberry Tea at the home of chairman Vicky Jones.

Although the weather was rather unkind, it was held outside. Spirits were not dampened - competitions were held, everyone wore red, white and blue.

The proceeds were in aid of the guild's charity for 2012/13 which is "The Alzheimer's Cafe".

The fundraising continued with members manning a white elephant stall and craft stall at the Hammerwich Jubilee Fete held at the cricket club grounds. This was well attended and very worthwhile.

Fundraising of a different kind was taken on, when nine members did a sponsored walk on a very wet morning in aid of the Princess Anne's Carers Trust.

Several of our members attended the National AGM at the ICC in Birmingham. Included in the itinerary were talks given by TV personalities Esther Rantzen and Eric Knowles.

In August the speaker will be Mike Lockley who will be talking about 30 years as a reporter.

Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of every month at the WI Hall, Burntwood Road, Hammerwich at 7.30pm. If you would like to join, call 01543 686210 for further information.

# Walkers to help with 874-mile challenge



A group of Pelsall E members in the gardens at Snowhill Manor

THE club's outing on July 30 began with a stroll round Bourton-on-the Water for a browse and lunch break, after which the ladies continued to Snowhill.

Following a steep walk up to Snowhill Manor, they discovered it housed an eclectic collection of antiques and unusual objects from all over the world from weavers' looms to samurai warriors.

On August 16, the club said goodbye to the Jubilee and Olympic celebrations with a festive fish and chip supper. Members rose to the occasion by wearing red, white and

**PELSALL 'E'  
TOWNSWOMEN**

blue and waving Union flags. In September, the Walking Group hope to rise to the challenge of helping Townswomen walk from Land's End to John O'Groats, a distance of 874 miles.

The speaker on September 20 will be Wendy Hayward of the St John Ambulance Service and the competition is for a hand-made Get Well Card.

## Newcomers made welcome

**DUDLEY WIDOWS  
& FRIENDS CIRCLE**

DUDLEY Widows & Friends Circle meets every second Saturday in the month at 2.15pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, Trinity Road, Dudley.

It is a small friendly group which has several events

during the year including meals out and Christmas lunch. Further details are available from 01902 881097 or 01902 676997. Members old and new will be very welcome.

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COMMUNITY SESSIONS

## PLAY THE GUITAR

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Cont. Beginners: Thurs 4th Oct. 20.00-21.00, 10 wks. £36.40 #  
Improvers: Tues 18th Sept. 19.00-21.00, 13 wks. £67.10 #  
Intermediates: Mon 10th Sept 19.00-21.00, 13 wks. £67.10 #

**CREATIVE WRITING** Mon. 17th Sept. Or Mon. 29th Oct.  
19.00-21.00. Both 5 wks. £25.80 #

## INTRO TO SIGN LANGUAGE

Mon. 10th Sept. 19.00-21.00, 10 wks. £51.60 #

## AN INTRODUCTION TO FAMILY HISTORY

Mon 17th Sept. 14.30-16.30 OR Thurs. 20th Sept. 19.00-21.00.  
Both 5 wks. £36.40 #

## CONTINUING FAMILY HISTORY

Mon 29th Oct. 14.30-16.30 5 wks. £36.40 #

## ADVANCED TOPICS: FAMILY HISTORY

Tues. 18th Sept. 9.30-11.30 5 wks. £36.40 #

## RECORDING FAMILY HISTORY

Tues 30th Oct. 9.30-11.30 5 wks. £36.40 #

## CREATE YOUR OWN WEBSITE

Tues 30th Oct  
12.00-14.00 OR Thurs 1st Nov. 19.00-21.00. Both 7 wks £51.00 #

## ADVANCED WEBSITE EDITING

Short 'N' Sweet

Must have completed 'Create your own website course'  
Thurs 13th Sept 19.00-21.00. 3 wks £21.90 #

## AN INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL IMAGING

USING PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS Mon 17th Sept. 9.30-11.30  
OR Tues 6th Nov. 14.30-16.30. Both 6 wks. £43.70 #

## CONTINUING DIGITAL IMAGING USING

PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS

Mon 5th Nov 9.30-11.30 6 wks. £43.70 #

## IMPROVING AND REPAIRING YOUR PHOTOS

USING PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS

Tues 18th Sept. 14.30-16.30. 6 wks. £43.70 #

## WATERCOLOUR PAINTING FOR BEGINNERS

Mon 1st Oct. OR Mon. 19th Nov. 14.30-16.30 3 wks. £21.90 #

## DRAWING FOR BEGINNERS

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## PAINTING AND DRAWING

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Tues 18th Sept. 19.00- 21.00, 12 wks. £61.90 #

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Thurs 20th Sept. 9.30- 12.00, 12 wks. £77.40 #

Thurs 20th Sept. 13.30- 15.30, 12 wks. £61.90 #

## CANAL ART: ROSES AND CASTLES

Tues. 30th Oct. 11.00-13.00 OR Mon 5th Nov. 19.00-21.00 Both 5 wks. £25.80 #

## BLACK COUNTRY CRAFTS

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## JEWELLERY MAKING

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Mon. 29th Oct. 9.30-11.30 OR Thurs 22nd Nov 19.00-21.00 . OR  
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## FACE PAINTING AND GLITTER TATTOOS

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## PATCHWORK

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19.00-21.00. OR Wed 19th Sept. 14.30-16.30. 12 wks. £61.95 #

## UPHOLSTERY

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## FASHION

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Tues 18th Sept 19.00-21.00. 3 wks £33.40 Cons. £27.90 and  
£16.50 (includes ingredients)

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Tues 9th Oct. 19.00-21.00 10 wks £51.60 # plus the cost of  
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Tues. 18th Sept. OR  
Tues 27th Nov. 19.00-21.00. 3 wks. £21.90 #

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Tues. 9th Oct. 19.00-21.00. 3 wks. £21.90 #

### INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE

Tues. 6th Nov. 19.00-21.00. 3 wks. £21.90 #

### STRESS MANAGEMENT

Thurs 4th Oct 9.30-11.30 OR Thurs. 1st Nov. 19.00-21.00 OR Thurs 8th  
Nov. 9.30-11.30. All 3 wks. £21.90 #

### MEDITATION

Thurs. 27th Sept. 19.00-20.30 OR  
Thurs 22nd Nov 19.00-20.30 Both 4 wks. £21.90 #

## PILATES

Beginners: Thurs 13th Sept. 18.00-19.00, 13 wks. £39.40 #  
Beginners@Oakfield. Fri 14th Sept. 10.00-11.00, 13 wks. £47.30 #  
Improvers: Tues 18th Sept. 19.00-20.00, 13 wks. £39.40  
Improvers: Wed 12th Sept. 18.00-19.00, 13 wks. £39.40  
Improvers: Thurs 13th Sept. 19.05-20.05, 13 wks. £39.40  
Improvers: Thurs 13th Sept. 20.10-21.10, 13 wks. £39.40

## LEGS, BUMS & TUMS

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## BALLROOM AND LATIN AMERICAN DANCING

All classes start Mon. 10th Sept. for 12 wks. Beginners 18.30-19.30, £39.35. Improvers/ Intermediates 19.30-20.45, £49.20.

## ADULT SWIMMING LESSONS

Courses begin Mon 10th Sept. for 13 wks. Fee £39.40.

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Intermediates: 20.30-21.15

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In a group of 2 or 1 to 1. Contact the office for further details

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## START YOUR OWN BUSINESS

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Mon 10th Sept. OR Mon 12th Nov. 19.00 -21.00  
OR Thurs 11th Oct. 13.30-15.30. OR Wed. 31st Oct. 9.30-11.30.  
All 4 wks. £29.15. #

## COMPUTING for the TERRIFIED

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Online solutions are used to students help develop their basic  
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advised to study suitable modules these include keyboard and  
mouse skills, e-mail, internet surfing and internet safety.  
Thurs. 20th Sept. 13.30-15.30 OR Wed 28th Nov. 9.30-11.30  
Both 3 wks. £21.90 #

## BEGINNERS GUIDE TO APPLE MAC

COMPUTERS Mon 10th Sept. 19.00-20.30. 6 wks. £43.70 #

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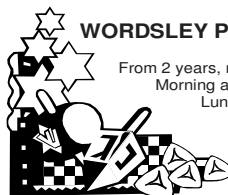
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**Intermediate 3:** Develops competence on all four strokes (25m) and a front and back stroke for 100m.

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## NEWS

## NEWS

## in brief

**MP Austin wants NHS experiences**

DUDLEY North MP Ian Austin wants residents to tell him about their recent experiences of the NHS.

He has launched a survey to find out what are regarded as the main priorities for the local NHS and will also ask how people think services can be improved.

He is sending the survey to thousands of his constituents and plans to present the results to Health Secretary Andrew Lansley.

It contains eight questions, covering issues such as waiting times and the importance of clean hospitals and fast test results.

Residents have three weeks to have their say.

The Labour MP said: "I'm keen to monitor residents' experiences."

**Reunion plan for ex-school pupils**

A REUNION is being held for pupils of a former Dudley school.

It is for students who left the Sir Gilbert Cloughton School in 1962 or 1964 and will be held at Dudley Kingswinford Rugby Club, Swindon Road, Kingswinford, on October 26. Anyone interested is asked to call Roger Shakespeare on 07779 923687.

**Cafe approved**

A NEW cafe for Dudley town centre has been approved by the council.

LCP Real Estate Ltd now has permission to convert a unit, which has been empty since 2009, in the Churchill Shopping Centre.

# 10,000 have signed up to save hospital from closing

A PETITION rallying support to stop the closure of Kidderminster Hospital now has 10,000 signatures, campaigners say. The Kidderminster Hospital Alliance is fighting plans to overhaul hospital services in Worcestershire.

The group wants services to be protected and is asking NHS bosses to consider using Kidderminster Hospital more to help relieve the pressure on the Alexandra in Redditch and the Worcestershire Royal in Worcester, which both have busy A&E units. Stephen Brown, secretary for the Kidderminster Hospital Alliance, said the petition had reached the 10,000 mark.

## Opening looms for carpet site

HISTORIC looms have been installed and displays are set to go up as work to turn a former carpet mill into one of the region's leading tourist attractions gains pace.

Bosses at Kidderminster Carpet Museum say "everything is now coming together" as work continues at the grade-II listed Stourvale Mill, in Green Street. One of the most important parts of the project - installation of centrepiece exhibits, a Jacquard Wilton and Axminster loom - has now been completed. Other displays will be going in next month.

That phase in September will be the final stage of the scheme. Bosses from the carpet museum trust have announced a formal opening ceremony for the museum will take place on October 19.

Patron of the trust Lord Cobham, of Hagley Hall, will carry out the opening. The museum will then open on October 20.

Trust officials said everything was on schedule for the opening date although there was still a lot of work to be done over the next month.

They said its extensive archive had also been moved from the nearby MCF Complex, in New Road, and is being set up in the new museum building.

The archive contains pictures, documents and equipment from the carpet-making factories which once employed thousands.

Members have been busy collecting signatures around the town including at Kidderminster Harriers Football Club.

Mr Brown said: "The big date is the 13 September when the NHS announce their short-listed models."

Health chiefs are reviewing the county's three main hospitals and six 'models of care' have been drawn up including two which threaten the Kidderminster site with closure or downgrading.

**Model**

Six potential "models of care" have been put forward. Each model would, as a minimum, see minor injury treatment facilities, outpatient services and some diagnostic services remain in Kidderminster, Redditch and Worcester, although this could be at existing sites or at different premises.

There is a budget of £900 million for hospitals in Worcestershire in 2012/13 but there is a growing gap between the demand for healthcare and the available funding with officials predicting a £200m shortfall by 2014/15.

A shortage of specialist doctors is another reason behind the proposed shake-up.

Clinicians say the problem will worsen as the demand for services grows.

Around 400 people across the county have attended seven discussion events and a report on the findings will be published by the end of the month.

A formal consultation will be starting in November.

## College building nears end



Principal Lowell Williams, marketing manager Jane Williams and project manager Graham Hopewell



The sports hall at the new Evolve building which has been built in Tower Street and opens later this year

DUDLEY College's new £18 million vocational training centre is nearing completion with students due to move in in less than a month.

Workers are putting the finishing touches to classrooms, a theatre and salons at the Dudley Evolve building, Tower Street.

Bosses from the college say the first classes would be held at the new building on September 23 - a day earlier than scheduled.

An official opening will then take place in late October or early November.

The development, which features distinctive copper cladding on the outside, is set over four floors and incorporates the frontage of the former fire station.

The fourth floor will be used by art and design students. Classrooms also have views over Tower Street and Coronation Gardens.

There is also a sports hall which accommodates six badminton courts, two practice basketball courts and a volleyball court.

Level three of the building will be used by sports and public services students and there is also a practice salon for hair and beauty students at the college. It also leads to the upper tier of the 181-seat theatre.

## £1m is up for grabs by local business

A £1 MILLION loan fund has been launched for businesses to help them expand and create new jobs.

Local firms can apply for loans of between £10,000 and £50,000 from Dudley Council.

They are available for the next two years to companies with up to 250 employees and a turnover no higher than £5m.

Repayment periods of one to five years can be agreed. Figures show the cash could be used to support up to 40 businesses, creating 30 jobs and safeguarding a further 60.

The council has created the initiative in partnership with the Black Country Reinvestment Society (BCRS).

Councillor Shaikat Ali, said: "Small and medium-sized businesses play a vital role in the economy and accessing finance can be a big barrier to overcome in order for them to continue to grow and prosper."

"We are committing to making £1 million available in loans to local businesses."

**Charities boost**

THE Mayor of Dudley's charities have been given a £700 boost, thanks to community leaders and borough businesses.

Councillor Melvyn Mottram received the money at Grand Iftar, the meal marking the end of the fasting during Ramadan, at Dudley Central Mosque.

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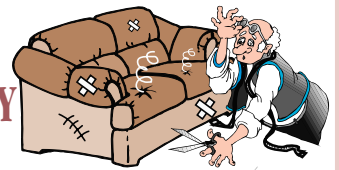
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**COMPETITION**

# Just the ticket so get on your bike

TO mark The Cycle Show's return to Birmingham's NEC next month the Chronicle series is offering 20 lucky readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to the show.

Some of the world's best-known cycling brands are set to take centre stage at the NEC for this year's show, which is open to the public from Friday, September 28 to Sunday, September 30.

Visitors will be able to grab a preview of the very latest bikes, accessories and fashions for 2013. Familiar brands already confirmed include Trek, Shimano, Raleigh, Condor and Specialized, but fans of cycling exotica will be spoilt for choice with the likes of Italian road racing specialists, Pinarello, Colnago and Cinelli all exhibiting.

Raleigh is celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2012 and is showcasing its full range of bikes and accessories as well as creating a special entrance to the show with a display of classic Raleigh bikes and advertising from its archives.

**Woodland**

Whether you are looking to try out the latest mountain or road bikes, get an autograph from some of Britain's top pros including Olympic Gold medalists Joanna Rowsell and Ed Clancy, or see top flight BMX riders battle it out for a cut of a £5,000 prize purse, the show promises a packed day of cycling mayhem.

Regular visitors to the NEC might be unaware that there is now a 1km mountain bike route running through woodland in the grounds of the venue. Visitors will be able to choose from a top selection of 2013 bikes before setting off for a spin around the Dare2b course.

The outdoor WASP Road Bike test track is being made electric bike friendly this year so visitors can see what the bikes in this fast-growing sector offer compared to traditional commuter bikes. This year's show will also feature a new Tour Ride Sportive on the Sunday, offering two distances - a 96k challenge and a 150k pro ride - that you can sign up for.

**Spectacle**

The sportive, the last in the Tour Ride series for the 2012 season, will allow riders to head out into the Warwickshire countryside before heading back to the NEC for a look around the show.

This year will also see the addition of a Super Crit circuit race around the NEC on the Saturday evening - a fantastic event for riders and a great spectacle for onlookers after a day at the show.

The show is set to be more family friendly than ever, with free tickets for every child under five who attends with a paying adult and tickets for just £1 for under 14s attending with a paying adult.

For more information, or to book tickets, go to [www.cycleshow.co.uk](http://www.cycleshow.co.uk) and all Chronicle readers can get their advance tickets for £12 for adults by going to [www.cycleshow.co.uk/book](http://www.cycleshow.co.uk/book) and entering code PR1.



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**HOW TO ENTER**

To be in with a chance of winning, simply answer this question:

**What is the name of the outside road bike test track?**

Send your answer on a postcard with your name, address and contact number to Bike Show Competition, Chronicle series (editorial), 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date: Thursday, September 6, 2012. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final.

# EPIC

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## MEMORY LANE



Dr Joseph Tonk and the family household from 1885



The Barracks at Chapel Green in Willenhall in 1950

# Exhibition highlights the rich heritage of town's lockmaking



An accident at Portobello railway station in 1899

**WILLENHALL's history has gone under the spotlight in a new exhibition.**

Famous for centuries for its lockmaking industry, the town's heritage is being uncovered in a display at Walsall Local History Centre.

The Essex Street venue is showing reproductions of rarely seen old photographs as well as documents dating back to before Victorian times.

Council leader Mike Bird said: "The towns which make up the present metropolitan borough of Walsall have a fascinating and

**by Catherine Dalton**

varied history. They all made a major contribution to the development of manufacturing in the UK and produced goods of the highest standard.

"This is the first of a series of exhibitions, created entirely in-house, reproducing items from the collections of Walsall Local History Centre and looking at the history of various towns across the borough."

Willenhall Past and Present went on show last Tuesday and runs until October 23.

Admission is free during normal opening hours.



Historian Stuart Williams shows some of the displays

## Advertisement

A working union between two dental professionals is helping to bring about life-changing outcomes. Spritely Joyce was resigned to living with a crooked smile – until she became one of their patients.

### Why Joyce's warm smile really is picture perfect

**P**EOPLE say a picture is worth more than a thousands words. And for spritely Joyce, the old adage could not be more true.

Smiling confidently, the 76-year-old is happy to face the camera, but until recently "not even my husband could take my picture," she says.

A mysterious childhood accident, of which she has no recollection, left her with a "lopsided smile" and subsequent adult issues with her teeth added to the problem.

Not least was a memorable incident which resulted in one of her front teeth being broken in two.

The shorthand secretary/PA was persuaded by a work colleague to ask her dentist for denture. "What a mistake," she says. "I wish I had never had a denture because that's when my troubles began."

Joyce's dentist didn't offer another option – "but it was a long time ago," she recalls.

The natural ageing process was unkind to Joyce too. She was diagnosed with osteoporosis and it affected the bone density in her jaw and gradually her teeth became mobile.

"My teeth were loose, I had sores from my denture plate and my twisted smile made me feel uncomfortable and embarrassed."

"Over the years I have spent a fortune on dentures, but none of them helped me. There was no long-term solution."



# Transformation

"I couldn't eat properly, food would get trapped under the lower denture all the time and I was afraid to cough and afraid to laugh in case the denture came out."

Joyce was resigned to "going through life without a normal smile."

She adds: "I was convinced I had a plate in my lower jaw and it was only recently when I had dental X-rays I knew I hadn't."

A feature in her local weekly newspaper highlighting the work of dentist Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng) proved a turning point.

### Fortunate

Mr Burchell of the Denture Clinic, which is based at the Parkdale Dental Clinic on Tettenall Road, Wolverhampton and in North Street, Dudley, said: "Although Joyce had lost her teeth, she was fortunate enough to

have enough bone density to sustain two lower jaw implants to secure an implant-retained denture. It was the best clinical route to be sure of dealing with her long-standing stabilisation issues."

She was referred to Parkdale implantologist and principal Jonathon Pugh, BDS MSc, who carried out the surgery. Joyce adds: "I never dreamed the process could cure my twisted smile – but it has."

"My smile is now totally normal and I can eat whatever I want."

"Before, I would have to choose something soft off the menu. I use to long for a steak and to bite into an apple. Now it's no problem at all."

Her praise for Mr Pugh is unbridled: "He's king," she says, "and Steve... I cannot speak highly enough of what he's done for me. I've already got in mind to have implants for my upper denture."

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### Traditional natural look

THE Denture Clinic has found satisfied customers from as far away as Spain. Its hand-crafted dentures, made on the premises, are known for their natural look. Denturist Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS (Eng), says: "Quality, traditional dentures can be hugely effective."

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## NEWS

# Objections voiced over £1.3m college expansion

## Trolley pumps up funds



Beverley Farmer, Wez Bowler, Iain White, and Nobby Clarke took part in a charity Pump Trolley Marathon from the Severn Valley Railway station VOLUNTEERS faced a test of stamina when they rode a pump trolley 32 miles along the Severn Valley Railway.

The event has made a comeback after more than a decade, in memory of long-serving member Ursula Broadhurst.

The gruelling challenge saw railway volunteers powering the trolley from Kidderminster to Bridgnorth and back to raise funds

for the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in Birmingham.

The hospital treated Mrs Broadhurst, an active member of the railway, before she died in April. The 32-mile round trip took place at the weekend.

In the 1990s, the trolley marathon was an annual fundraiser before the trolley became a permanent exhibit at the Engine House Museum in Highley.

**OBJECTIONS** have been lodged against plans for a £1.3million expansion of a sixth form college.

Neighbours of King Edward VI College's De Saulles building in Stourbridge, have voiced their fears.

The college has been earmarked for new classrooms, but families say they fear their homes will be overlooked by the development. College bosses want to build a two-storey mathematics centre at the site, in St John's Road, for the 500 students who study the subject every year.

But residents in St Giles Row, off Lower High Street, fear the project will affect their privacy and reduce the amount of daylight coming into their homes.

Jonathan Taylor, speaking on behalf of 32 residents, said in a letter to Dudley Council: "The most important issue is that the proposed two-storey plan will reduce access to daylight for the homes close to the development."

"The second issue regards privacy, mainly for the gardens and bedrooms of the town houses close to the site, which will be directly overlooked from the proposed development."

Mr Taylor said the residents did not object to the development of the college but would prefer a single-storey building created to protect their privacy.

College bosses want to demolish the De Saulles building to make way for the new mathematics block.

The project would be funded by the college, which is based in Lower High Street, with the help of a Government grant of around £675,000.

### Camera's owner sought

POLICE are hoping to reunite a digital camera found on a footpath near Redditch with its owner.

West Mercia Police found the silver Canon Powershot close to Stockwood Business Park, near Inkberrow. Anyone who thinks they own the camera should call 101.

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\* The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single room supplements apply.

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## NEWS

# Decision on investment could mean 80 carpet jobs

AN EXTRA 80 jobs could be created in Kidderminster if the owners of carpet maker Brintons decide to invest in new cutting edge looms there, rather than in Portugal.

The Carlyle Group from the United States, which bought Brintons last September, will decide by the end of the year where to make the £8 million investment.

Don Coates, managing director of Brintons, said currently it was swaying in favour of Portugal because the economically-stricken country was offering better incentives.

Brintons bosses met business minister Mark Prisk, number two to Vince Cable recently, to request more support.

Mr Coates said that he hoped the Government would come back with an improved offer that would persuade Carlyle to invest in the Stourport Road factory where 350 are employed.

"This is a major investment decision for us. It would support jobs here and increase export revenue.

"Brintons has changed a lot since the buyout and we have taken a decision to give the UK a future and we would like to put something new into the UK but it needs the Government to help strengthen the case for that," added Mr Coates.

Brintons also employs 200 in Telford and has a factory in India as well as in Portugal.

# Takeover may raise tax

**TAKEOVER of a civic building to ensure it remains open for community use could lead to a rise in council tax for residents in a Worcestershire town.**

Stourport Town Council is working to take on Stourport Civic Centre when Wyre Forest District Council moves to a new base later in the year.

The town council have decided to continue their work towards acquiring the building after a feasibility study was recently drawn up.

But the study revealed if the project was taken forward it may involve an increase in the amount of council tax paid by residents in Stourport. The

town council said the rise was only a possibility and every effort would be made to ensure there would be no increase.

But they said the present worst estimate could result in a £4.26 average annual increase for council taxpayers in Stourport.

## Admitted

Councillor John Holden, chairman of the working party looking into the takeover, admitted there were still "hurdles to cross" before a final decision was made.

"The decision to continue acquiring the site is another big step forward and we are all keen to move this project on," he said.

"However, we need to make sure we

have explored all the options and received the best advice possible before making a decision. This is a great opportunity but also a very challenging project with the aim of creating a real civic and community resource for the town."

Treasurer of Stourport Town Council Richard Mountford said: "To keep this valuable asset open and working for the town, every effort will be made to set no increase in the council tax. However, the current worst estimate results in a £4.26 average annual increase for Stourport taxpayers."

Last October, Wyre Forest District Council gave an agreement to transfer the building into community ownership and to provide a £500,000 grant to refurbish it.

# Plans to go on display

AMBITIOUS plans for Wyre Forest including new public squares and replacing subways with pedestrian bridges are available for residents to air their views.

The planning documents will outline areas for potential revamps over the coming years.

The consultation period runs until September 14, when representations can be made on the documents.

To give your views visit [www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk](http://www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk) or the documents are also available to view at the Customer Service Hub at Kidderminster Town Hall and libraries.

# Volunteers pack in a lot to help charity



Volunteers Beth Millinchip, Amanda Boffy and Emma Millinchip with Paul Bartley, of Dudley's White House Cancer Support, Sarah Homer, of Asda, and Sophie Higgs

VOLUNTEERS raised hundreds of pounds for charity by packing shopping bags for customers at a Dudley supermarket.

The event was organised by Dudley's White House Cancer Support and held at Asda at the Merry Hill Shopping Centre.

Volunteers took up their positions at the checkouts from 10am offering to help pack customers bags in return for a donation.

They continued into the afternoon to raise as much money as they could for the charity, based in Ednam Road, Dudley. Officials said it had been a "very busy" day and residents had been very generous with some giving as much as £20 to the good cause.

Spokesman and co-ordinator for the charity Paul Bartley said: "We would like to thank everyone who supported us at the charity bag pack. It was a very busy but very satisfying day for us."

# Roadshows pushing full of life message

FIVE roadshows will be showcasing the annual Full of Life Festival in Dudley.

Dudley Council and Age UK Dudley have teamed up to host the event, which runs from October 1 to 5.

Throughout the festival, there will be activities including walks and cycle rides, dancing, jewellery making sessions, exercise classes, laughter yoga and aromatherapy sessions.

They will be held from 10am to 3pm at Merry Hill outside Eat Central on September 10, Cornbow Shopping Centre on September 12, Churchill Shopping Centre on September 14, Ladies Walk in Sedgley on September 17 and finally at the Ryemarket in Stourbridge on September 19.

Festival brochures will be available at libraries, leisure centres, Age UK Dudley centres and the Age UK Dudley Shopmobility at Merry Hill from the beginning of September. This year's festival is supported by the Geoff Hill Charitable Trust and the Forum of Older People in Dudley.

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(T&C's below)

**WIDOW** genuine 70's, kind, caring, likes country music, dancing, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394801

**BLONDE** attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818

**BIG** bubbly black female, single mum, looking for male for nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392501

**CHRIS** attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392401

**SARAH** nice looking blue eyed slim brunette, WLTm similar lonely male for fun times hopefully leading to ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394575

**MADDIE** extremely passionate female 37, seeks reliable male to enjoy the finer things in life and tactile relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394565

**PAULINE** divorced female on the wrong side of 40 looking for adult fun with easygoing highly driven man if you get my drift? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394463

**SLIM** male, seeks lady 35-45, size 12-18, GSOH for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394591

**SARAH** 23, attractive, brunette, slim, looking for male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979

**KAREN** witty female who loves to laugh, WLTm similar male to share interests, romance, cosy nights in and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393125

**CARING** lady, 52, brown hair/eyes, seeks male, 30-60 for socialising, meals out, cinema, music, sports and having a laugh. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392883

**FARMER'S** granddaughter, OHAC, stunningly attractive, respectable, sincere, WLTm countryman/bachelor, 48-62, 5ft 9ins plus, genuine, uncomplicated with GSOH and TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387204

**POLLY** dark hair, 50, attractive, outgoing, seeks special outgoing male for days out etc. Telford. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391127

**BLONDE** tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852

**LOVING** caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384651

**SUE** 5ft 2ins female, brown hair/eyes, loving, likes music, socialising, films, good times, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393223

**LADY** widow, 58, slim, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks smart, intelligent, easygoing man with GSOH who enjoys conversations, days out, short breaks, meals out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387247

**SALLY** slim attractive feisty redhead, intelligent, easygoing, WLTm similar male for friendship and more, looks unimpaired. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393469

**WIDOW** 70, genuine, kind, caring, laidback, seeking male for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387013

**EASYGOING** down to earth female, likes cooking, exploring new things in life, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386893

**LADY** young 60, outgoing, friendly, smart, likes cinema, shopping, meals out, seeks similar female friends for days out and evenings. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387117

**39YR** old single female, hurt in past, animal lover, likes most things, seeking genuine man for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386887

**CLARE** good looking, beautiful blonde, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376209

**LOUISE** 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, GSOH, kind, caring, honest, genuine, loving, WLTm male, 43-55 with similar qualities for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376165

**MANDY** 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360317

**ALICIA** 19yr old green eyed female, very attractive, slim, long hair, independent, looking for fun with mature male, no time wasters. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 390059

**ANNA** 29yr old nurse, 6ft curvy auburn beauty, likes cosy nights in, genuinely seeking older, well built male to look after, 40-69yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375139

**SARAH** 38, slim, nice looking, tactile, no ties, WLTm kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378483

**PAULINE** attractive petite nurse, loves evenings in/out, looking for honest male to share loving friendship and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 379535

**VICKY** honest caring female 33yrs, GSOH, loves meals in/out, travel, cinema, WLTm someone to enjoy nice things in life with and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383911

**DENISE** tall leggy good looking single mum, easygoing, enjoys nights in/out, animals, WLTm tall male for fun times possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391873

**SLIM** 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 339373

**YVONNE** looking for Christian male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391135

**MADELINE** 5ft black seeks male 26-41 with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375789

**IRENE** 55, blonde hair, brown eyes, loving, caring, genuine, N/S, lots of love to give, seeks male, 55-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392807

**HELEN** 34yr old single mum slim intelligent, seeks nice male for adult companionship with good potential for a great relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394121

**SUSIE** gorgeously feminine and sensual, loves lazy summer days, misses male companionship WLTm someone with sense of adventure and lust for life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394117

**LOUISE** youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392491

**HOME** alone with no one to call my own! 38yr old girl looking for fun. Can travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363277

**STACEY** young 20yr old looking for fun. Call me to find out more. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382091

**JANE** 46, single mum, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 380591

**CURVY** red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks older male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377432

**FUN** loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks older male, 50-70. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383325

**NICKY** looking for attractive male 48-55yrs for fun, good times and relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388393

**50YR** old female, seeks male for fun and socialising. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 233580

**KIND** loving lady 43, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391863

**LONG** haired blonde, 37, enjoys meals out but would love to cook a romantic meal for the man of her dreams. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 361076

**CHLOE** pretty single female 36yrs, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lonely and looking for fun with mature male, no time wasters. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387057

**TALL** curvy female, 36dd, loves music, looking for fun and romance with dark male. Give me a call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 359238

**HOLLY** 25, slim, attractive, brunette, likes gym, WLTm nice, sensitive male of similar age for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 380851

**DO** you know what women want? 40yr old petite lady needs spilling and lots of love by attractive male, 45-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 327573

**LAURA** 36, seeks male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384171

**LADY** 70's, seeks gent of similar age for friendship, days out and holidays. Dudley area. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 361043

**BUBBLY** female, 42, young at heart, honest, caring, likes outdoors, cinema, theatre, meals out, seeks like minded male/soul mate, 40-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 357919

**42YR** old Sagittarian 5'7ins, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks genuine, caring guy interested in films, meals out, country walks, gardening and travel, 45-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 358398

**JESSIE** single mum 24 looking for her Mr Right for equally respectful relationship, hopefully blossoming into love. Single dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382087

**JOY** 36 petite medium build, blue eyes, loves romantic walks, meals in/out, WLTm male 30-45 for meets. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386629

**LYNN** 37 single mum, petite slim and very pretty, seeking caring funny guy to be with and become my Mr Wonderful. Dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386633

**MORAG** 21yr old attractive dark haired student nurse, new to area and very lonely seeks mature male for mutual companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391087

**JENNY** blue eyed cuddly independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTm older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378481

**MAUREEN** seeks male 32-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 323543

**SLIM** professional, attractive, amiable lady, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH, who enjoys the good things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386615

**33YR** old black haired, medium built, 5ft 3ins female seeking soul mate. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 389799

**MARIA** 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 329319

**NATALIE** 30, attractive, size 12, black, seeking male for romantic fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387753

**SINGLE** mum, 36, 2 children, seeks fun loving male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382595

**GENUINE** female, 36, brunette, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, fun, outgoing, adventurous, GSOH, looking for tall, honest, genuine male for good companion, dates and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388327

**SHAPELY** attractive, light skinned black female, 39, seeks attractive, fit, male, 30's, builder type, tanned, rugged for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 231152

**PATRICIA** 5ft 5ins, red hair, blue eyes, likes nights out, meals, clubs, seeking nice young man who is kind, generous to look after me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378207

**ATTRACTIVE** slim blonde, 45, seeks honest, caring, genuine male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 349651

**28YR** old brunette, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 380918

**FEMININE** caring, young, mid 60's N/S woman, varied interests, seeks genuine, loyal male of similar age to share togetherness and LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 321931

**DIONNE** 5ft 3ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, medium build, 42, single mum, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376801

**JANICE** attractive female, 50, size 12-14, seeks younger gent, 40-50 for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376115

**KATHY** caring lady 60, medium build, smoker, seeks caring, smart male 55-65 for companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 374773

**BETTY** fuller figured black female, 26, body confident, affectionate, WLTm older chocolate loving male for daytime meets. Any status. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377511

**FEMALE** medium build, seeks nice N/S male, 40-42 for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 337985

**LOUISE** 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, average looks, likes reading, meals out, cinema, theatre, quiet pubs, honest, genuine, kind, caring, GSOH, seeks male, 42-58. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391308

**FUN** loving lady, 56, outgoing, honest, caring, seeks, caring male, 55-60 for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391192

**CARLY** beautiful slim brunette looking for naughty mature male 50-70yrs for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376569

**WIDOW** genuine, 70, kind, caring, N/S, seeks male for friendship, relationship, holidays and outings. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 303133

**PROFESSIONAL** independent lady, 49, slim, blonde, attractive, varied interests, seeks intelligent, romantic, sincere, genuine male with GSOH for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 359351

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A really nice divorced gent, late 40's, 6ft 1ins, fair hair, kind, caring, romantic, GSOH, seeks lady for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392474

**38YR** old slim, genuine male, GSOH, seeks female, 40-55 to enjoy life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392330

**DUNCAN** 43, attractive, honest, sincere, looking for attractive lady for friendship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392328

**JOSEPH** 40 tall, GSOH, seeks female, 26-48 for fun and relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394103

**GOOD** looking male, brown hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, seeks female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392092

**HONEST** loyal male, 64, seeks lady for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393759

**DAVE** 47, well built, divorced, 2 children, WLTm lady of similar age for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393789

**DON** 55, 5ft 6ins, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks lady, any age for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392100

**5FT** 6ins male, blue eyes, generous, likes a drink, cinema, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392094

**32YR** old slim, dark haired male, adventurous, creative, likes music, walks, cycling, photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753

**THOMAS** 39, seeks female, 27-48 for relationship and fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392851

**45YR** old male, average build, GSOH, likes country walks, meals out, don't be shy, now reply. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393137

**KIND** honest, caring, male, 70, likes socialising, holidays, OHAC, seeks female, 60-70 for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393053

**DARK** handsome male, Tiger Woods lookalike, seeking BBW. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392179

**DUNCAN** 43, attractive, honest, sincere, looking for attractive lady for friendship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392326

**TALL** good looking guy 48, smart, friendly, GSOH, seeks female for fun only friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394229

**CHRIS** GSOH, loving, loyal, likes walks, music, seeks female to love and treat well. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392320

**MATTHEW** 5ft 3ins, medium build, good body, seeking fit female for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393743

**CHRIS** GSOH, loving, loyal, likes walks, music, seeks female to love and treat well. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392320

**JOHN** seeking dominant male to bring out my feminine side. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394705

**SEAN** 45, caring, kind, loving, animal lover, seeks female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394149

**LOOKING** for love, young 62yr old N/S male, 5ft 9ins, blue eyes, sincere, genuine, OHAC, seeks N/S lady with no ties. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394017

**TIGER** Woods lookalike, seeks big beautiful woman for fun and games. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393737

**MALE** 70's widow, kind, honest, caring, likes socialising, holidays, nights in/out, seeks loving female for respectful, caring relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393559

**GOOD** looking 48yr old male, GSOH, honest, caring, loyal, hurt in past, looking for loving female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394159

**PROFESSIONAL** male, 42, hurt in past, seeks female, 32-40. Single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392765

**NAUGHTY** 40 something, tall, smart, GSOH, seeks lady for rainy days and Sundays. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392665

**TOM** 62, fit, likes tennis, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392659

**MALE** 38, seeks female, any age for daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392845

**GOOD** looking 39yr old male, likes pubs, music, walks, swimming, seeks nice female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392943

**51YR** old male, 6ft, dark hair, single parent, likes most things, sports, seeks slim, honest, caring female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392933

**KEVIN** attractive young looking 45yr old, slim, fit, varied interests, likes football, meals out, cinema, pubs, holidays, nights in, GENT 58, OHAC, retired, sensitive, caring, warm, easygoing, N/S, seeks N/S slim, attractive lady for friendship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393515



## NEWS

# Campaign push to bring region a new Metro line

A CAMPAIGN is being stepped up for a new Metro line through the Black Country – but council chiefs admit they could face a long wait for funding.

Dudley Council hopes the extension of the line currently being built in Birmingham will prompt the Government to plough more money into the region.

It wants the metro to be part of a huge revamp of the town, which includes a new market, superstore and link road between Dudley Zoo and the Black Country Living Museum.

The line, which would run between Wednesbury and Brierley Hill, has been included in the blueprint for Castle Hill in Dudley.

Regeneration chief Councillor Shaikat Ali said the council would step up calls on the Government to invest in the £289 million project.

He said: "As a local authority we want to keep the campaign going to improve the transport system and we will do whatever we can to make sure that it can happen when resources become available."

"But we do not know when funding will become available, as we must rely on central government, so at the moment it is a case of making our voice heard."

The Birmingham line will run from Snow Hill Station to New Street Station, creating more than 1,500 new jobs and boosting the region's economy by more than £50m a year.

Plans to extend the line through Wolverhampton were also recently resurrected.

## Woman vicar for villages

THE villages of Kinver and Enville, near Stourbridge, are preparing to welcome their first woman vicar.

The Rev Karen Stanton, team vicar in the Wythenshawe Anglican Team in Manchester, will be licensed as Rector of Kinver and Enville in early November.

She will replace the Rev David Blackburn, who retired in February.

## Restored car's the star



Paul Matty with his 1960 Lotus which he recently restored

A RACING car driven by Formula 1 legends Stirling Moss, Jim Clark, Graham Hill and Innes Ireland was seen in action for the first time in 25 years over the weekend.

The 1960 Lotus 19 underwent a three-year restoration, having been a bare chassis and boxes of bits kept in storage by the previous owner for more than 20 years.

The event over the weekend was at Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, near Stourport and celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Lotus Elan.

The Lotus 19 made its debut and took part in a parade and demonstrations. Featuring a 2.5-litre Coventry Climax FPF engine – the period F1 engine of its day – the car is painted in the original UDT Laystall Team colour of lime green.

Owner Paul Matty, of Bromsgrove, said: "Besides our regular Lotus championship contenders, we have also created a very special class of over 30 rare and unusual Lotus cars to take part in a parade to help celebrate the Elan's golden anniversary."

The main event of the weekend was due to be the British and Midland Hill Climb Championships, with top drivers racing cars from across the UK competing for points.



Racing legend Innes Ireland in a Lotus 19

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- |                              |          |
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| 1. Lamb Chops                | £5.00    |
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| 4. Veg Pakora                | £2.00    |
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| 7. Chicken Tikka             | £3.50    |
| 8. Chicken Wings             | £2.50    |
| 9. Shish Kebab               | £3.00    |
| 10. Chicken Tikka Wrap       | £3.50    |
| 11. Shish Kebab Wrap         | £3.00    |
| 12. Chicken Tikka Puree      | £3.00    |
| 13. Medium Mix Grill         | £6.00    |
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| 15. Poppadum                 | each 50p |
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| 18. Chicken Burger & Chips   | £2.99    |

# POKER NIGHTS EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY

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# What's On! Halesowen

## Eerie evening in castle grounds

THE latest eerie evening at Dudley Castle take place on September 22 from 8pm until about 2.30am.

It will include a ghost hunt and history walk of the castle and grounds, readings by spiritualist mediums, and the opportunity to use real ghost-hunting equipment.

For further details visit [www.dudleyzoo.org.uk](http://www.dudleyzoo.org.uk) or call 0845 201 3994

Meanwhile, Songs of Praise presenter Aled Jones will join the Gentlemen Songsters Male Voice Choir.

The singer takes to the stage at Dudley Town Hall with the choir on September 22. Tickets are available on 01384 838863.

## Band is swinging into Town Hall

CHRIS Smith's Five-Star Swing Band takes to the stage at Dudley Town Hall on September 18.

The group, which recently appeared on the BBC's Children in Need, will play songs by artists including Glenn Miller, Frank Sinatra and Ella Fitzgerald.

The show starts at 2pm and tickets are £11, available from 01384 812812.

## Dark humour

A THEATRE group will bring a black comedy to Brierley Hill. Caramba's Revenge, by the Community Players, runs from September 5 to 8 at the Oakfield Centre. Call 01384 394349.

# Hard work will be required to set another good Example

## Get ready for Stacy she will rock you

THE UK's only female-fronted Queen tribute band will play a gig in Wolverhampton tonight (Thur).

She Will Rock You, fronted by vocalist Stacy Green, will take to the stage at Bilston's Robin 2.

Drummer Steve Black said: "One of vocalist Stacy Green's biggest influences was the legendary Queen."

"She learnt her trade listening to Freddie Mercury and Brian May as guitarist."

"This has led her to join forces with two current members of Led Zeppelin tribute band Fred Zeppelin and together with bassist Mark Cresswell, myself and guitarist and Elliott Gavin they have formed the



Queen tribute act She Will Rock You fronted by Stacy

unique and only UK female fronted tribute to Queen.

"With Stacy as Freda Mercury she is now truly the Queen of Rock."

Tickets for Thursday's gig at the venue in Mount Pleasant are £8 in advance or £10 on the door. Call 01902 401211 to book.

The band has a number of other gigs lined up in the

region in the coming weeks. This includes a performance at the Fern & Fallow, Stafford Road, Canock, on Thursday, September 13.

Tickets are £5 on 01543 899199. They will also play The Roadhouse in Lifford Lane, Kings Norton, Birmingham on September 20 and Coseley WM Club on September 27.

YOU'D have expected him to have been focused on the afternoon's show. After all, rave-pop superstar Example was third on the bill at this year's V Festival. But backstage, there was only one thing on the mind of Elliot John Gleave – lasers.

Example will hit the road early in the new year for his second stadium tour and he is determined that it will be bigger and better than before. He played to huge crowds in spring, but will be performing to even bigger audiences early next year. His tour will reach Birmingham's LG Arena on February 28.

Example said: "Yeah, we did an arena tour in April this year, so this is the second one. The first arena tour is like a milestone in your career, this time the pressure is on to put on a bigger better show – so I'm thinking about getting lasers involved."

"I've always loved lasers, not many people can say 'Yeah I've got lasers'."

"They cost an absolute fortune, they're seriously expensive, but they're going to make the show incredible."

Before then, Example has the small matter of a new single to promote, Say Nothing, which is out on September 16. His new album, The Evolution of Man, will also follow on November 18. It has been produced by DJ Dirty South.

Example's got work to do to maintain his recent form. His last album, Playing In The Shadows, was a number one hit and he enjoyed two consecutive number one singles, Changed the Way You Kiss Me and Stay Awake.

Say Nothing is an anthemic stadium filler and destined radio smash. To add to the mix, Example recruited the legendary guitar skills of Blur hero Graham Coxon.

● Tickets for LG Arena show in February 2013 are on sale now, priced £25. Visit [www.theticketfactory.com](http://www.theticketfactory.com) or call 0844 338 8000 to book.

Andy Richardson

## What a galloping good old giggle

Dandy Dick  
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham

TO continue the equine flavour of Pinero's Victorian comedy classic, the action sees each actor fast out of the stalls and the audience left galloping to a good old giggle.

This revival of the 1887 rib-tickler is an exhibition in fine writing, masterclass acting and scene setting. While its formal old-fashioned style may not be to everyone's taste, there is something very soothing about being lost in a world of gentleman callers, drapers' bills and butlers.

Led by old favourites Patricia Hodge and Nicholas Le Prevost, the actors are, to a man, magnificent. Not seen for 40 years, the play tells of an impoverished dean and his frivolous daughters who become involved in the evils of horse racing through the antics of the cleric's wayward widowed sister.

There are surprise guests, mistaken identities, a jail break, a runaway horse and romance. Who could ask for more?

Sarah Cowen

## Classic Holmes will hound stage

DUDDLEY Little Theatre bring the production of Sherlock Holmes classic The Hound of the Baskinville to the stage at Netherthorpe Arts Centre from September 5 to 8.

The mysterious death of a prominent local citizen brings Holmes and Watson to the English countryside, where many believe a mythic hound is fulfilling an ancient family curse.

Tickets for the show, which starts at 7.30pm, are £7 and £6 for concessions. Call 01384 812812.

## Tribute acts to raise funding

A HOST of tribute acts will be taking to the stage on September 6 to raise money for Worcestershire Breast Unit Campaign.

Among those performing will be Ollie Hughes as Robbie Williams, a Take That tribute group, Antony Edwards as Michael Jackson and Tom Faulks as Michael Buble.

The event will take place at the Gainsborough House Hotel in Kidderminster.

## Guitar concert

A PIANO and classical guitar concert will be performed at Halesowen Parish Church, High Street on September 8 at 10.30am by Sarah Daniels and Andrew Gough.

Tickets are £5 and available from 0121 501 2443, the Traidpoint shop in the church or on the door.

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## What's On!

### Film Choices

#### MONDAY

**Eagle Eye, BBC1, 11.20pm**

Two strangers find themselves on the run from the authorities when they receive mysterious phone calls informing them their lives are in danger. They are forced to follow the instructions of a woman who is tracking their every move, while at the same time trying to discover who is behind the conspiracy. Thriller, starring Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan, Rosario Dawson and Michael Chiklis. (2008)

#### TUESDAY

**Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, Channel 4, 1.50pm**

Two notorious outlaws' routine of bank and train robberies is cut short when a seemingly unstoppable posse is formed to catch them. The pair plan to flee America and start a new life in Bolivia, with the Sundance Kid's schoolmistress lover in tow – but staying ahead of the law is not so easy. Western, starring Paul Newman, Robert Redford and Katharine Ross. (1969)



Eagle Eye, Monday, BBC1, 11.20pm

#### WEDNESDAY

**The Jacket, ITV1, 10.35pm**

A marine discharged from service for injury-related amnesia finds himself accused of murder and declared insane. Sent to an asylum, he is subjected to increasingly brutal treatment – but the so-called therapy has an unexpected effect on his mental state. Psychological thriller, starring Adrien Brody, Keira Knightley, Kris Kristofferson, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Kelly Lynch. (2005)

#### THURSDAY

**A Running Jump, Channel 4, 11.50pm**

A man's attempt to buy a second-hand car in London's East End becomes surprisingly complicated when he crosses paths with a selection of colourful characters, including a rogue trader and his unusual family. Mike Leigh's short comedy, commissioned for the London 2012 festival, starring Lee Ingleby, Eddie Marsan, Samantha Spiro, Robert Pugh, Danielle Bird, Nichole Bird and Sam Kelly. (2012)

#### FRIDAY

**Stay Alive, ITV1, 10.45pm**

Youngsters get their hands on a mysterious and grisly video game and immediately start to play. But while battling for the highest score, they begin to realise that the deadly virtual events are becoming a reality – and race against time to pull the plug on the real-life killings. Horror, starring Jon Foster, Samaira Armstrong, Frankie Muniz, Jimmi Simpson, Wendell Pierce, Sophia Bush, Adam Goldberg and Milo Ventimiglia. (2006)

### Pick of the Week

## Hoping to keep the feel good factor going

We're a sturdy old nation if nothing else. For those of us who sat through the nail-biting Olympic Games – from the opening ceremony through the emotional wins and near-wins of Team GB, to that surprise-laden closing ceremony, we have certainly done ourselves proud. The eyes of the world have been on us since we celebrated the Queen's Jubilee back in June, and we haven't once crumbled – but the pressure is far from off, as the next stint of the Games is officially declared open in London 2012 Paralympic Games Opening Ceremony. Due to the success of the Olympics, ticket sales for the Paralympics have soared and, at the time of writing, the surge had meant it was on track to be the first to sell out in the event's 52-year history. London 2012-Paralympics is as rare as ever, something that former Paralympic swimmer Rachael Latham is intensely proud of. She said: "When we won the bid, and everybody was saying how the

Paralympics will be so much bigger, I always wondered how they were going to make sure it was on par with the Olympics. And the best thing is that I don't think they've needed to do that much [to promote it] – people simply want it to be [a big hit]. Everyone is excited for the Paralympics, which I don't think we've ever had before. It definitely wasn't like that when I was racing in Beijing. I think it's going to be a new era for the Paralympics." Rachael is the current European record holder for 200m butterfly, world record holder for 50m butterfly and 200m backstroke British record holder. She took part in two finals in the Beijing Paralympics, but an injury meant she had to retire from competitive swimming in 2009, and couldn't be involved in London 2012 – at least not in the way she had previously known. However, she is on presenting duties and will be covering all the action down on the front line for Channel 4 – and that's the next best thing, according to Rachael.

She explains: "There was no way I wasn't going to get involved in London 2012. When I couldn't go with swimming, I just had to find a new way to be able to get there. "Obviously I'm an athlete at heart and I always will be but I couldn't have asked for anything more than to be part of the media. Channel 4 is going to do a great job and I'm so excited." But let's not get ahead of ourselves – as the opening ceremony gets underway, Channel 4 stalwarts Jon Snow and Krishnan Guru-Murthy present from what promises to be a phenomenal start to the occasion; especially given that the Paralympics originated in the UK in 1948. We can expect a spectacle that challenges perceptions of human possibility, including a fly past by Aerobility, a British charity that trains disabled people to become pilots, a parade of all the competing nations, and, of course, the official entrance of the Paralympic Flame.



Jon Snow presents the ceremony from the Olympic Stadium, London 2012 Paralympic Games Opening Ceremony, Wednesday, Channel 4, 8pm

### Best of the Rest

#### MONDAY

**Harry's Mountain Heroes, ITV1, 9pm**

This inspiring one-off documentary follows five soldiers who were wounded on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan, but who are now preparing to take on one of the biggest challenges on Earth – scaling Mount Everest. Although Prince Harry (or as the Olympic announcers call him, Prince Henry) was unable to take part in the climb because of other commitments, he has been there to support captains Martin Hewitt and David Wiseman, privates Jacob van Gass and Karl Hinett, and doctor Francis Atkinson in his role as both a patron and a friend. He even turns up to see them off at Heathrow as they prepare to fly to Nepal. But even with a royal to inspire them, the challenge of trying to reach the top is fraught with danger.

#### New Tricks

**BBC1, 9pm**

When Jack Halford (James Bolam) ended the last series of the detective drama by telling his boss Sandra (Amanda Redman) that he didn't really care whether he lived or died, most viewers didn't give it that much thought. After all, it wouldn't be the first time a run had ended with the threat that an old dog was going to give up on New Tricks. However, this time around it seems Jack actually meant it, as he shocks Sandra, Brian (Alun Armstrong) and Gerry (Dennis Waterman) by announcing his resignation. The team are keen to find out why, but shadowy Whitehall official Stephen Fisher (Tim McInnerny) wants them to put their skills to a very different use.

#### TUESDAY

**ACCUSED, BBC1, 9pm**

Liverpudlian comedian John Bishop has done the odd acting role in the past, but this week's drama really gives him something to get his teeth into. He plays Peter, a father of two whose wife is dying. Peter tries to ease the pain his teenage sons Stephen and Dom will feel, and is pleased to have the help and support of palliative care nurse Charlotte. But eventually, after his mum's death, Stephen suspects that Charlotte may not be the saintly figure his dad thinks she is, and begins to be plagued by doubts and anxieties. But, most puzzling of all, why does former spin doctor Alistair Campbell keep appearing to talk to him?

#### WEDNESDAY

**BRITAIN THEN AND NOW, ITV1, 9pm**

In June this year, many people threw street parties to help celebrate the Queen's diamond jubilee – and that proved to be a surefire way of getting to know the folk living around them. One such bunch of residents from east London were tasked with recreating the same style of bash that would have gone on in 1953, when the Coronation took place. All they had to go on to help them were a handful of photographs of the event that happened on their road all those years ago – until they managed to track down some

of the original partygoers. The research and organisation revealed some fascinating social changes that have happened in the decades since, as this documentary reveals.

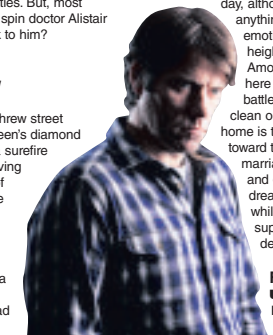
**THURSDAY  
BRITAIN BY NIGHT  
ITV1, 9pm**

If we're to believe news reports and certain sections of the media, Britain is a dangerous place at night. But it's actually a minority of folk who suffer during the wee small hours; the rest of us get on with our lives just as we would during the day, although if this documentary is anything to go by, thoughts and emotions can be more heightened once darkness falls. Among the people featured here is Tony, whose constant battle to keep London's streets clean once the crowds have gone home is tempered by his feelings toward the break-up of his marriage. But it's not all doom and gloom; Indian bride Nisha's dream is about to come true, while midwife Natalie supervises an emotional delivery.

**FRIDAY  
UEFA SUPER CUP  
LIVE  
ITV1, 7.30pm**

The Stade Louis

Accused, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm



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**The top property guide for: Dudley, Stourbridge, Halesowen and Kidderminster**

## Traditional semi-detached with views of village fields

**BACKING on to open fields, this property in the desirable location of Wall Heath village is on the market priced at £194,950.**

The traditional semi-detached house in Beachcroft Road has been extended and offers accommodation including two separate reception rooms and three excellent size bedrooms.

It is set back behind a large driveway which leads to a garage, and to the rear is a large and established cottage-style garden.

On the ground floor the lounge, 12ft 9in by 12ft 7in, has a living flame gas fire with stone style feature fireplace surround, while the dining room measuring 12ft 7in by 10ft 9in also has a living flame gas fire with feature fireplace surround.

The fitted kitchen, 9ft 6in by 8ft 6in, has a range of units with roll edge work surfaces, stainless steel one and a half bowl

sink/drain with mixer tap, plumbing for slimline dishwasher, four ring gas hob with cooker hood over and integrated electric double oven.

A utility room, 14ft 9in by 10ft 2in, has plumbing for a washing machine, space for a tumble dryer and other appliances and door to a shower room with white suite of corner shower cubicle, vanity unit with wash basin and WC.

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a refitted bathroom of white suite comprising panel bath with shower above, vanity unit with inset wash basin and WC.

The rear garden has a paved/chipped patio with steps down through shrub areas to a lawn with borders, ornamental pool and further chipped patio leading to a pergola and down to a greenhouse and pebbled garden area to the rear with pergola and established borders.

For more information, call Taylors on 01384 401777.



This semi in Beachcroft Road, Wall Heath, is available for £194,950



The good-sized garden found to the rear of the Beachcroft Road home



The kitchen is well-equipped, with gas hob, cooker, wall and base units

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<p><b>OLDBURY</b></p>  <p><b>Squirrels Hollow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Detached bungalow</li> <li>* Much improved</li> <li>* Two beds</li> <li>* En suite shower room</li> <li>* Garage</li> <li>* Cul de sac location</li> </ul> <p><b>Offers in the region of £239,950</b></p>	<p><b>HALESOWEN</b></p>  <p><b>Greenhill Road</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Traditional style semi detached</li> <li>* Two bedrooms</li> <li>* Living * Dining</li> <li>* Extended kitchen</li> <li>* Conservatory * Utility</li> <li>* Extensive rear garden</li> </ul> <p><b>Offers in the region of £199,950</b></p>	<p><b>HALESOWEN</b></p>  <p><b>Middlefield Avenue</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Detached bungalow</li> <li>* Two Bedrooms</li> <li>* Bathroom with shower cubicle</li> <li>* Side Garage</li> <li>* Rear Garden with open aspect</li> <li>* No upward chain</li> </ul> <p><b>Offers in the region of £184,950</b></p>	<p><b>OLDBURY</b></p>  <p><b>Castle Road West</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Well presented semi detached house</li> <li>* Two reception rooms</li> <li>* Extended kitchen/breakfast room</li> <li>* Three bedrooms</li> <li>* Bathroom with separate shower cubicle</li> <li>* Delightful rear garden</li> </ul> <p><b>Offers in the region of £179,950</b></p>	<p><b>OLDBURY</b></p>  <p><b>Radnor Road</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Extended end of terrace house</li> <li>* Two bedrooms</li> <li>* Through lounge</li> <li>* Kitchen/breakfast room</li> <li>* Bathroom * Shower/wetroom</li> <li>* Good size garden</li> </ul> <p><b>Offers in the region of £105,000</b></p>	<p><b>SMETHWICK Bearwood</b></p>  <p><b>8 Three Shires Oak Road</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Ground floor flat</li> <li>* one double bedroom</li> <li>* kitchen with some appliances</li> <li>* shower room</li> <li>* electric heating &amp; dgw</li> <li>* forecourt car space</li> <li>* available from 1st sep 2012</li> </ul> <p><b>Monthly rent of £395</b></p>	<p><b>STOURBRIDGE Wordsley</b></p>  <p><b>31 Spinners End Drive</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Self contained flat</li> <li>* One bedroom</li> <li>* Fitted kitchen with appliances</li> <li>* Convenient location &amp; car space</li> <li>* UPVC DG windows &amp; N/S heating</li> <li>* Allocated car space</li> <li>* Available 1st September</li> </ul> <p><b>Monthly rent of £385</b></p>
<p><b>HALESOWEN</b></p>  <p><b>Lyttleton House Blackberry Lane</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Retirement apartment</li> <li>* One bedroom with fitted wardrobes</li> <li>* Living room * Kitchen</li> <li>* Fitted shower room</li> <li>* Communal residents lounge</li> <li>* Emergency pull cords</li> </ul> <p><b>Offers in the region of £99,999</b></p>	<p><b>HALESOWEN</b></p>  <p><b>Edward Road</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* End of terrace house</li> <li>* Two bedrooms</li> <li>* Lounge * Kitchen</li> <li>* Some modernisation required</li> <li>* Good size garden</li> <li>* Driveway parking</li> </ul> <p><b>Offers in the region of £85,000</b></p>	<p><b>QUINTON</b></p>  <p><b>Glyn Farm Road</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Extended semi detached house</li> <li>* Through living room</li> <li>* Three bedrooms</li> <li>* Tastefully improved</li> <li>* Well appointed bathroom</li> <li>* Small garage/store to rear</li> </ul> <p><b>Offers in the region of £189,950</b></p>	<p><b>HALESOWEN</b></p>  <p><b>Royal Oak Road</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Traditional semi detached house</li> <li>* Improved to a high specification</li> <li>* Downstairs shower room</li> <li>* Three good-sized bedrooms</li> <li>* Well appointed bathroom</li> <li>* Extensive lovely garden</li> <li>* Conservatory</li> </ul> <p><b>Offers in the region of £259,950</b></p>	<p><b>NETHERTON</b></p>  <p><b>Plot 4, Rear Of 196 Cradley Road</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* New detached bungalow</li> <li>* Two bedrooms</li> <li>* Lounge with focal point fireplace</li> <li>* Quality fitted kitchen/dining</li> <li>* Utility</li> <li>* Garage</li> </ul> <p><b>£179,000</b></p>	<p><b>TIPTON</b></p>  <p><b>9 Old Port Close</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Ground floor flat</li> <li>* One bedroom</li> <li>* Open plan kitchen/living room</li> <li>* Night storage heating,</li> <li>* Car space</li> <li>* Available now!</li> </ul> <p><b>Monthly rent of £365</b></p>	<p><b>Consult us whether Selling, Letting or Buying 0121 422 4011</b></p> <p>Member of <b>team</b> Agency Network with around 250 offices</p>



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#### NETHERTON, MARLOW CLOSE

A well presented three bedroom semi detached property situated in a quiet cul de sac on the borders of Cradley Heath within a close proximity to local schools and public transport links. Accommodation includes: Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Utility, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Cavity Wall Insulation, Front and Rear Gardens, Garage.

**£142,500**



#### HALESOWEN, BROMSGROVE ROAD

Located in a semi rural location, is this nice unfurnished traditional semi detached house, comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Three Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen with Utility Area, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, House Bathroom with Shower, Driveway Parking, Lovely Rear Garden with Decking Area

**£725 PCM**



#### NETHERTON, RACEMEADOW CRESCENT

Situated in a popular area, is this nice modern mid town house, comprising of: Three Bedrooms and Two with Wardrobes, Two En-Suite Bathrooms, House Bathroom with Shower, Fitted Dining Kitchen with Appliances, Large Lounge, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Garage and Driveway Parking, Small Rear Garden

**£695 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, TOYS LANE

This 3 story 1880's victorian town house, ideally located for bus routes to Halesowen, Stourbridge and Merry Hill, close to local shops and situated in the catchment area for Caley Lane Primary School, comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Brand New Fitted Kitchen, 3 Double Bedrooms, Master Bedroom with En Suite, 1 Bathroom with Fitted Shower, Rear Garden, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Parking on Road or Car Park Opposite.

**£695 PCM**



#### ROWLEY REGIS, PEARTREE DRIVE

Situated in a quiet cul-de-sac and close to the M5, is this modern unfurnished detached house, comprising of: One Reception Room, Fitted Kitchen with Dining Area, Downstairs WC, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Three Bedrooms, House Bathroom, Master Bedroom with En-Suite, Garage and Driveway Parking, Gardens

**£650 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, HIGHFIELD ROAD

A short walk away from local buses and shops, is this lovely 3 bed end terrace family home benefitting from GHC and DG and comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Beautiful Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom with Shower, Rear Family Garden and Garage Parking.

**£575 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, HIGHLAND HOUSE

Located just off Graham Road, is this very large, fully refurbished ground floor Flat, comprising of: Two Large Bedrooms, New Fitted Kitchen, Modern Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Allocated Parking, Garage, Communal Gardens, Unfurnished

**£550 PCM**



#### STOURBRIDGE, PROSPECT GARDENS

Located close to Stourbridge Town Centre, is this unfurnished mid terraced house, comprising of: Two Large Bedrooms, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Cosy Lounge, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Bathroom with Shower, Small Rear Garden, Parking Space to Front

**£525 PCM**



#### CRADLEY HEATH, NORWOOD AVENUE

An Unfurnished semi detached house in this popular residential area comprising of Large Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Private Rear Garden. On Street Parking. Available End of September.

**£495 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, BANNERS STREET

A mid terrace property which has been refurbished, comprises of: Two Double Bedrooms, Brand New Fitted Kitchen, Two Reception Rooms, White Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Large Garden with Decking Area, On Road Parking, Available Immediately.

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#### CRADLEY HEATH, HALAS COURT

An unfurnished third floor apartment, close to local shops, train station, and bus routes, briefly comprising of: Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with Appliances, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens, Electronic Gates leading to Secure Parking Area, Internal Inspection Recommended

**£495 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, VICTORIA COURT

A Two Bedroomed Second Floor Flat Having Accommodation Including Hall, Generous Lounge With Balcony Off, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom With Jacuzzi, Double Glazing And Storage Heating, Communal Gardens.

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#### QUARRY BANK, NEW STREET

A Detached Bungalow comprising of: Large Lounge, One Double Bedroom, Newly Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Corner Bath and Separate Shower Cubicle, Gas Central Heating, Part Double Glazed, Rear Garden, Driveway for Two/Three Cars. Available End Of August.

**£495 PCM**



#### UPPER GORNAL, TUDOR VALE

Situated at the end of the cul-de-sac, is this unfurnished and mews house, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Newly Decorated and Carpeted Living Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, House Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Parking Space

**£475 PCM**



#### NETHERTON, ROUND STREET

An unfurnished semi detached house, in a popular area, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Driveway Parking

**£475 PCM**



#### OLDBURY, KELLNER GARDENS

An unfurnished ground floor flat, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower Room, House Bathroom, Secure Allocated Parking Space

**£475 PCM**



#### NETHERTON, ROCK HAVEN

An immaculately presented modern 1st floor unfurnished apartment, situated close to shops and bus links, comprising of: Open Plan Kitchen with Appliances/Lounge with Large Bay Window, Two Bedrooms, House Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazed and Electric Heating, Communal Gardens and Parking Space Available. Available Immediately

**£450 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, SHENSTONE FLATS

An unfurnished second floor flat, close to local shops and bus routes, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Kitchen and Storage Area, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Garden, Parking

**£450 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, WHITEHALL COURT

Thoroughly re-decorated and well presented is this ground floor apartment in a sought after location, Close to Halesowen town centre, comprising of: One Double Bedroom, Large Living Room, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens and Carpark to the Rear, Furnished to Suit

**£425 PCM**



#### BRIERLEY HILL, FOXDALE DRIVE

Situated in a quiet location and within walking distance to Brierley Hill town centre and a short drive or bus to Merry Hill Shopping Centre is this ground floor apartment, comprising of: One Double Bedroom and One Single, Fitted Kitchen with No Appliances, House Bathroom with Shower, Spacious Lounge, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, One Allocated Parking Space

**£395 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, APPERLEY WAY

Located on the popular development of the Homer Hill Estate, is this spacious first floor apartment which has been redecorated and new carpets fitted, briefly comprising of: Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens, Allocated Parking

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# Late blossoms bring colour to lift what's been a dire summer

While many summer flowers are now fading, Hannah Stephenson looks at the bright lights of late summer which will make your borders sizzle



When mixing colours, try to avoid using too many pastels with hot colours as the brighter hues will swamp the more subtle ones

MY delphiniums and lupins are long gone, my roses are fading and the giant-flowered hybrid clematis are past their best, but my perennial borders remain a riot of colour thanks to a few, well-chosen gems.

Late summer can be a time when colour is at its hottest, when blazing cosmosmia, burnt orange helenium, bright yellow rudbeckias, acid green euphorbias and an array of other plants come into their own.

Exotic orange ginger lilies (Hedychium), which release a great scent, clash with vibrant red Dahlia 'Bishop of Llandaff' or its relative D. 'Tally Ho', with its hot, deep orange flowers.

If you prefer pastel shades, plant sun-loving cone flowers (Echinacea) in shades of pink and white for a cooler, more subtle scene.

The daisy-like flowers and height (they can grow to 150cm (5ft) tall) mean they work well towards the back of the border, attracting bees and butterflies and adding impact alongside globe thistle (Echinops) and monarda.

Some varieties have rich colours that can be combined with fuchsias, or blue salvias. E. 'White Swan', a white variety with yellow centre, provides a cooling companion dotted within the hot border.

## Extending

If you thought hard before summer started and were wise enough to plant some nasturtium seeds in your hanging baskets and patio pots, they should be now showing their true colours in a hot array of orange and yellow.

Clumps of bulbs are particularly useful in extending the season. Spikes of crocosmia will add architectural interest to the late summer border, their upright, spiky leaves with elegant sprays of orange-red flowers brightening the scene.

My favourite is C. 'Lucifer', a fairly tall variety growing to 120cm (4ft), which produces brilliant red flowers and looks wonderful grown alongside the purple-leaved smoke bush, Cotinus 'Royal Purple', or against a backdrop of acid-green evergreens.

Many warm yellow herbaceous perennials look fantastic in mass plantings, such as the long-lasting Rudbeckia fulgida 'Goldsturm' and late season heliopsis.

Bronze or burgundy leaves look fantastic mixed with the hot-coloured border. Place shrubs with red-purple foliage, such as Berberis thunbergii f. atropurpurea, behind red or orange plants.

The burgundy leaves of heucheras also make a wonderful foil at the front of the border, as their more vibrant companions show off from behind. Other good choices include the herbaceous perennial Lysimachia ciliata 'Firecracker', a



moisture-loving bronze-leaved plant with brilliant yellow flowers. Use drifts of perennial border phloxes in the middle of borders to provide intense pools of summer colour. Herbaceous potentillas or small asters can be planted in front to hide the bare phlox stems.

Phloxes are ideal follow-on plants for poppies and shouldn't need staking except in windy gardens. Don't let them dry out in summer as they need a moist soil.

Hotter subjects include red hot poker (kniphofia), which produce rocket-shaped flowers, some red with yellow at the base, others a single colour, and the red tradescantia, T. 'Carmine Glow', a low-growing perennial (usually growing to around 60cm so perfect for the front of the border) with strap-like foliage which flowers until September.

Red varieties of astilbe such as 'Feuer' will give you coral-red flowers to September, above delicate feathery plumes. They thrive in moist ground in partial shade and can really brighten up a woodland scene.

If you want to add late summer-flowering plants to an existing border, buy as many of the same colour and variety as you can afford and repeat-plant them through the border to develop a sense of rhythm.

When mixing colours try to avoid using too many pastels with hot colours as the brighter hues will swamp the more subtle ones.

If you plan carefully, your sizzling summer colour can last right through to autumn.



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Gower Road, Halesowen



**£274,950**

An extended traditional four bed detached house in an established residential area, benefiting from gas central heating and double glazing, the property offers accommodation - entrance hall, lounge, dining room, guest cloak-room, study, en suite and family bathroom.

Duke Street, Rowley Regis



**£240,000**

Five bedroom detached property, entrance hall, wc, breakfast kitchen, lounge, dining room, 1st floor bathroom, en-suite to main bedroom, further shower room, double glazing + central heating (both where specified) garage, driveway and rear garden.

Glaslyn Avenue, Rowley Regis



**£230,000**

A Modern Detached House Comprising of Lounge, 2nd reception room (converted garage), Kitchen / Diner, WC, 1st Floor Accommodation has 4 Bedrooms En Suite to master, Family Bathroom, Drive and rear Garden.

Howley Grange Road, Halesowen



**£225,000**

An extended traditional three bedroom semi detached house, entrance hall, lounge, conservatory, dining room, kitchen, utility, downstairs wc, 1st floor bathroom, garage, driveway, established rear garden, central heating and double glazing (both where specified) No upward chain, Open to offers.

Arkle Croft, Rowley Regis



**£190,000**

Modern detached family home with accommodation comprising of: entrance hallway, guest wc, lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen, four bedrooms, master en-suite and bathroom. The outside offers a garage, driveway to fore, front garden and rear garden.

Cherry Orchard Crescent, Halesowen



**£185,000**

Three Bedroom semi detached property, porch, hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, house bathroom, driveway, garage, extensive rear garden and decked patio area, double glazing + central heating (both where specified).

Dayhouse Bank, Romsley



**£180,000**

Three Bedroom mid terrace property, entrance hall, kitchen, lounge, 3 Good size bedrooms and family bathroom, decked patio area and rear garden with stunning views, double glazing (where specified) garage to rear.

Colley Lane, Halesowen



**£160,000**

Detached House Comprising 3 Bedrooms Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Conservatory, Wc, Family Bathroom, Rear Garden, Drive and garage.

Ross, Rowley Regis



**£160,000**

A modern detached Bungalow comprising lounge, kitchen, bathroom, 2 bedrooms, front and rear gardens, drive and garage.

Hillbrow Crescent, Halesowen



**£150,000**

Semi detached property comprising of: entrance hallway, lounge open to dining area, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. Driveway to fore and rear garden. Double glazing and central heating (both where specified).

Cherry Street, Halesowen



**£150,000**

This Property Must Be Viewed Having Undergone a Comprehensive REFURBISHMENT - The property comprises of Lounge, Kitchen Breakfast Room, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Rear Garden and Drive

Woolpack Close, Rowley Regis



**£140,000**

NEW PRICE

Detached House comprising: Lounge, Kitchen Breakfast room, Conservatory, 3 Bedrooms, Shower room, Rear Garden, Garage and drive.

Shelton Lane, Halesowen



**£110,000**

Semi detached property comprising of - porch, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. Driveway, garage, front and rear gardens. Double glazing (where specified)

Hickmans Avenue, Cradley Heath



**£120,000**

Traditional End terraced house comprising of Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, 3 Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Rear Garden and Gravel Drive.

Peckover Close, Rowley Regis



**£118,000**

Three Bedroom Semi Detached House, Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, First floor Showerroom, Garage and Driveway, Rear Garden, Double glazing + Central Heating (both where specified).

Cornfield Road, Rowley Regis



**£100,000**

Three Bedroom semi detached property, Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Bathroom having bath and separate shower cubicle, Wc, double glazing + central heating (both where specified) Rear garden, Wc downstairs, Driveway to the front.

Claremont Court, Cradley Heath



**£100,000**

One Bedroom detached bungalow, porch, hallway, kitchen, lounge, bedroom, bathroom, allocated parking space, double glazing and central heating (both where specified)

Barrs Road, Cradley Heath



**£100,000**

Traditional terraced house comprising of lounge, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, family bathroom and rear garden.

Stourbridge Road, Halesowen



**£90,000**

A Traditional mid terrace house offering lounge, kitchen, lean to, two bedrooms and first floor bathroom. To the outside is a rear garden and a small fore-garden. Central Heating and Double Glazing (both where specified).

Furlong Lane, Halesowen



**£80,000**

Traditional end terraced property comprising of two reception rooms, kitchen, downstairs shower room, two bedrooms, en suite and rear garden.

Beeches Road, Rowley Regis



**£70,000**

A deceptive three bedroom mid terrace property offering VACANT POSSESSION, also benefits from two reception rooms, kitchen, WC, bathroom, outside the property has a low maintenance rear garden

Olive Lane, Halesowen



**£70,000**

A traditional 2 Bed end terraced house in need of re-furbishment.

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# MOTERING NEWS AND REVIEWS

## CHRONICLE

### MOTERING

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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

# Zafira Tourer bows the line for quality

**FIRST** things first, I don't need a seven seater car and I don't need to be able to tow a decent weight... but if I did the Vauxhall Zafira Tourer would be up there among contenders.

This third-generation of the model hit our roads earlier this year and has continued its earlier success and built on it. Unlike some MPVs, it is full-size with plenty of space for seven, and also unlike other MPVs, it can actually tow a decent weight. In fact it was named this year's Best MPV at Practical Caravan magazine's Towcar Awards 2012.

## By Sharon Walters

The Practical Caravan awards, backed by What Car? magazine and The Camping and Caravanning Club, are based on a vigorous and thorough towcar assessment. Each car is tested by a panel of eight judges for its towing ability, buying and owning costs, drive quality when not towing and practicality.

"The Zafira Tourer really comes into its own when towing," said awards judge Nigel Donnelly, Haymarket Outdoor Leisure Group's editor-in-chief - digital. "At the legal limit and beyond the Zafira Tourer is a relaxing car to tow with. With plenty of power and torque, the 2.0-litre engine pulled car and caravan from 30-60mph in 14.1 seconds. Braking showed the shortest stopping distance in this class. The Zafira Tourer offers strong performance, good stability and space for seven."

"We're delighted Zafira Tourer has won the Best MPV title at the Towcar Awards 2012," said Peter Hope, Vauxhall's marketing director. "The Towcar of the Year awards are an industry standard and by far the most prestigious event in the caravanning calendar."

And while I didn't test its towing capabilities the 2.0 litre version I drove certainly felt it had the capability to hitch up the 'van' for a summer holiday and leave you feeling pretty

safe behind the wheel with the kids piled in the back. But I did test some of Vauxhall's flexibility claims by trying out a number of the options Flex7 seating system. There are several including 'Lounge Seating' on key models. When you want seven up the two seats at the very back come up out of the floor and the middle bench seat is now a set of three separate seats which are also capable of folding and splitting into any number of combinations. In addition the two outside seats slide backwards and inwards against the middle seat which folds to form two arm rests and gives plenty of space.

## Lugger

Only downside to seven up is the reduced boot space. But if you want to turn it into a load lugger put all the seats down to reveal 1,860 litres of space - more than enough for a trip to collect flat-pack from Ikea or clear the shed out and head for the tip.

Staying on the inside materials are of a much better quality than the old model and the design means everyone gets a good view of outside from the light and airy cabin. This is made even better if you opt for a panoramic sunroof and the high-top windscreen.

There's a choice of two petrol engines and three diesel. My car was the ecoflex with start/stop technology and I really could appreciate the difference in fuel consumption when chugging around town doing odd jobs and stopping off for shopping. Sitting at

traffic lights just when they change at one of my regular routes can take some minutes and when the engine switches off it can make all the difference on your monthly fuel bill.

Drivewise it was comfortable and coped well with the potholes on the B roads on my way into work and it smoothly made its way along the M54.

Standard features across the four trim level range include: ESP, six airbags, air conditioning, CD/MP3 player and cruise control - not bad with prices starting at £21,010.



A good view outside is guaranteed due to the Zafira's high-top windscreen

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# Hyundai i40 wins glowing European market accolades

**A YEAR on from launch, the all new i40 has picked up a number of prestigious awards in Europe – a sign of the success and popularity of Hyundai's first Europe-focused D-segment vehicle.**

Most recently, the all new i40 Tourer picked up the acclaimed 'Company Car of the Year' award in its segment in Germany, pre-

sented by Firmenauto and the vehicle inspection and appraisal organisation, DEKRA.

Judged by more than 100 industry representatives, the jury chose i40 Tourer as the winner based on three principal criteria: driving performance, comfort and cost.

Senior vice president and COO of Hyundai Motor Europe, Allan Rushforth, said: "The all new i40 is a flagship vehicle for Hyundai – our first model in the highly com-

petitive D-segment that's designed and engineered in Europe, for Europe. It's quickly established itself as a true contender, celebrating its first anniversary by collecting another prestigious award – a great demonstration of our successful product localisation strategy."

Shortly after going on sale, the i40's build quality, safety and innovation were recognised by a 500-strong judging panel at the high-profile EuroCarBody Confer-

ence, where it received the overall winner's 'Gold Award'. The all new i40 has picked up a number of other awards across Europe, each praising the key attributes of the car which have made it so popular amongst European buyers.

The i40 comes with Hyundai's market-leading Five Year Triple Care assurance package, comprising a five-year unlimited mileage warranty, five years' roadside assistance and five years of vehicle health checks.



Hyundai's i40 Tourer – winner of the Company Car of the Year award



Jam, Glam, thank you Slam – the Adam models

## Paris to get eyeful of the new Adam

**THE global debut of Vauxhall's game-changing new supermini will be at the Paris Motor Show, the company has revealed.**

Offering more customisation possibilities than any Vauxhall before it, the Adam also breaks Vauxhall's long-standing tradition to end the car's name with a letter other than 'A'. The pictures released so far show a great-looking car, with styling cues reminiscent of larger prestige cars and confident proportions. Vauxhall is expecting its massive personalisation potential to be its biggest pull.

When the car is unveiled, prices and basic specifications will be announced. Special interactive computer stations will be set up to allow the show's visitors to build their own Adam and explore the myriad combinations.

Three initial trim levels will be available with three distinct feels. First is the trendy and colourful Jam, then the elegant and sophisticated Glam, and finally Slam for buyers wanting a racier, sportier look.

From launch, the Adam will be offered with a choice of three efficient EcoFlex four-cylinder petrol engines: a 1.2-litre with 69bhp and two 1.4-litre engines with 86bhp and 99bhp. All will be available with optional engine stop-start technology and will use a five-speed manual gearbox.

## Showtime date for new Chevrolet SUV

**CHEVROLET is to showcase its new small SUV for the first time at the Paris Motor Show, from September 29 to October 14.**

The Trax will sit below the Captiva in size. At about 4.25m long and less than 1.8m wide, the Trax will be compact enough to be handy around town, helped by its high driving position.

It's designed to be more practical than its size would suggest, with an array of storage bins dotted throughout the cabin and extra storage space underneath the 358-litre boot. Eight seating configurations will be possible thanks to a 60/40 split folding rear bench seat and a front passenger seat that folds flat, allowing long loads to be stowed safely.

Three engines will be available at launch, including a basic 1.6-litre petrol, a 138bhp 1.4-litre turbocharged petrol and a 128bhp 1.7-litre diesel. A torque-on-demand part-time four-wheel-drive system will be available on the 1.4 and 1.7.



Chevrolet Trax – seating options

## Volvo in 'business'

VOLVO has unveiled a new trim level called Business Edition, with features aimed at business users.

Available on the S60, V60 and V70, Business Edition offers more kit for a lower price, with the aim of persuading fleet buyers to plump for the stylish Swedish brand.

Business Edition replaces the ES and ES Nav trim levels, adding new standard-fit upgrades including satellite navigation, Bluetooth, a more powerful stereo system and rear parking sensors. Large price reductions of up to £3,000 will reduce benefit-in-kind payments.

Prices are to start from £19,995 for the S60 Business Edition with the T3 entry-level petrol engine.

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## Tipton in a scrap, but grab the victory

**Tipton Town 4 Alvechurch 2**  
TIPTON continued their winning run in the Baker Joiner Midland Alliance with a hard-fought victory over a determined Alvechurch side.

Tipton opened the scoring through Matt Martin after a long throw from Tom Tonks was flicked on at the near post.

Alvechurch levelled when Elliot Nash collected the ball on the back post and cut inside before slotting the ball past Neil Page in the Tipton goal.

Tipton then regained the lead when Adam Wattle's 35-yarder gave the keeper little chance.

The second half saw end-to-end action as Tipton went 3-1 up after Mike Wardle rounded off a fine move by finishing off a one-two with Tonks.

Alvechurch pulled one back from the penalty spot, but Tipton had the last word with a fine finish by Tonks.

Few matches this season are likely to produce so much entertainment and so many goals. Tipton have found their form after a slow start.

## Quigley left dashed by racing form

BLACK COUNTRY rider Luke Quigley was left frustrated after a difficult race at Cadwell Park in round eight of the British Superbike Championship.

Quigley had enjoyed his best qualifying session of the season but was unable to translate it into race results.

He was one of the first riders to commit to slick tyres during Sunday's qualifying and successfully got through to the second phase, finishing 16th.

He began race one steadily, running 18th at the end of the opening lap, but an error saw him fall gently from the GBmoto Honda at Park. Due to restart rules, he was forced to retire.

Having not completed a flying lap in the first race, Quigley was forced to start the second one from 23rd on the grid. He made a fine start and got up to 17th before the grip in his rear tyre began to fade, finally finishing 21st.

"I am disappointed," he said.



James Morrison, right, celebrates after his equaliser

# Albion show bags of spirit

Spurs 1 Albion 1

FORMER Albion boss Roy Hodgson watched his old side snatch a point at White Hart Lane on Saturday, writes **Steve Madeley**.

And the England manager would surely have approved of the display he witnessed from his old side under their new leader Steve Clarke.

The hard-earned draw was a reminder of the resilience and spirit that the Scot is determined to retain from his predecessor's reign.

The melee of joy that greeted James Morrison's 91st-minute equaliser offered an encouraging insight into the unity of spirit in the camp as keeper Ben Foster sprinted 60 yards to leap

into a celebratory clinch with Youssouf Mulumbu, while new-boys Claudio Yacob and Markus Rosenberg threw themselves headlong into a mass huddle of happiness.

The goalscorer himself typified the Baggies' attitude as he refused to succumb to a painful ankle injury suffered in the opening moments.

Clarke's side had to stand firm as Tottenham dominated the first 45 minutes without keeper Ben Foster being required to extend himself fully. Following half-time words from

Clarke and his staff, Albion closed down higher up the field, cutting off the vital supply line to Gareth Bale and allowing the visitors began to apply pressure of their own.

Spurs found substitute Romelu Lukaku too powerful to handle, so it was something of a surprise when first Defoe had a cool finish ruled out for offside and then Benoit Assou-Ekotto saw his long-range drive take a cruel deflection past Foster.

But after Assou-Ekotto headed a goal-bound Gareth McAuley header onto his crossbar, William Gallas nodded off the line from Lukaku and then McAuley teed up Morrison.

# Two late goals have fans singing in rain

Yeovil 2 Albion 4

**ALL'S WELL that ends well. And Albion's fans ended their night out in Somerset singing in the rain.**

But the Baggies' sopping wet supporters feared their hopes of a Capital One Cup run would be washed away before two late goals from a second-string line-up eventually saw off the challenge of high-flying Yeovil at Huish Park, writes **Steve Madeley**.

An Albion side featuring 10 changes from the weekend draw at Tottenham were pushed all the way by an in-form Glovers outfit inspired by two-goal Hawthorns old-boy Reuben Reid.

But a Shane Long brace, a Chris Brunt rocket and a crucial – but fortunate – Craig Dawson strike eventually took Steve Clarke's men into round three and prolonged his unbeaten start to life at the helm.

It was a night where the patience and dedication of the 1,242 travelling fans were tested to the limit, and when the character and resilience of Clarke's squad eventually shone through to make memories of their sluggish first half.

### Misery

A three-hour drive and a constant down-pour left the majority of Baggies supporters soaked as they watched from an uncovered terrace while their team toiled against the League One leaders.

And for long spells of a breathless match it appeared they would be made to endure another 30 minutes of misery, even after a stunning 35-yard effort from Brunt had set in motion a belated Baggies fightback from Reid's 15th-minute opener.

Ultimately an instinctive touch from Dawson and a crisp volley from Long for his second goal after Reid's headed equaliser gave the scoreline a facade of superiority for Clarke and his men. Yet the drenched devotees who shuffled away from Huish Park to wring out their clothes and begin the long



Celebrations for scorer Shane Long



Albion's Yassine El Ghanassy, left, battles with Edward Upson at Huish Park

drive home knew it had been too close for comfort, even if the spirit of the Baggies stand-ins had to be admired.

It was the Glovers who looked more dangerous early and James Hayter was denied by a post with the Boaz Myhill struggling.

So it was no surprise when the hosts took the lead on 15 minutes. Zoltan Gera conceded a free-kick on the left and Ed Upson's set-piece was glanced home by Reid, rising highest in a crowded box.

It was a pulsating, end-to-end affair and Albion went close with Dawson seeing a header cleared off the line by Luke Ayling.

And they were denied by the woodwork when Brunt's right-footed shot took a deflection and looped onto Marek Stech's left-hand post. James Hayter headed just over for Yeovil but the Baggies' extra quality

reared its head as they turned the game around with two goals in the final five minutes of the first half.

The first was Brunt's thunderbolt, the Baggies skipper letting fly from 35 yards with a left-footed effort that whistled into the top corner. And the second, on the stroke of half-time, was a predator's strike as Long pounced on a fumble by Stech from a Brunt corner to make it 2-1.

But it was all square again just three minutes after half-time as Gollazo Jara Reyes failed to stop Sam Foley on the left and the full-back's cross was nodded in by Reid at the far post.

Reid was only denied a third goal moments later by a smart Myhill save after he had jinked his way past Craig Dawson. Markus Rosenberg, making a decent fist

of his full Baggies debut, had a shot blocked by Richard Hinds after Yassine El Ghanassy had been denied by Stech.

But Dawson made it 3-2 to Albion with 17 minutes remaining to ease the nerves when he deflected a shot by El Ghanassy past Stech.

And Long completed the scoring on 81 minutes, blasting a right-footed shot from the edge of the area into the top corner to end any doubt amid the continued deluge.

**Yeovil (4-4-2):** Stech; Ayling, Hinds, Webster, McAllister; Marsh-Brown, Blizzard (Ince, 75), Upson, Foley; Hayter (Ugwu, 75), Reid (Young, 75). **Subs not used:** Nkumu, Ralph, Stewart (gk).

**Albion (4-2-3-1):** Myhill; Jara Reyes, Dawson, Tamas, Jones, Thorne, Brunt, Rosenberg 7 (Fortune, 76), Gera (Mulumbu, 73), El Ghanassy, Long (Berahino, 83). **Subs not used:** Yacob, McAuley, Hurst, Foster (gk). **Referee:** Darren Sheldrake (Surrey). **Attendance:** 6,228 (1,242 away).

## A Brady bunch of goals sees Tivi home

Heath Hayes 3 Tividale 4

TIVIDALE won a seven-goal thriller to get through this FA Cup preliminary round tie.

They led 2-0 but the visitors survived a big penalty appeal at 3-2 up. After three minutes, Adam Wood lost the ball in his own area allowing Bret Clark to put Tividale in front and within five minutes Kyle Brady doubled their lead following further home indecision.

Tividale gave Hayes several more frights before the home side launched their first worthwhile attack. Craig Hancox's effort was comfortably saved by keeper Tim Beech.

However, moments later Hancox made no mistake when heading home Dave Waple's deep cross.

On 40 minutes Tividale made it 3-1 when Hayes won a corner which was cleared to the unmarked Clark who ran through to set up another goal for Brady.

At the break Hayes replaced Peter Dolman with Alex Roope for his debut – and the move brought immediate reward. Waple provided a good through ball and Roope converted.

Hayes were now in the ascendancy and a good move down the right ended with Luke Jones brought down by Jason Chilton. The home side thought they had a penalty, but the referee ruled the infringement to be outside the box.

Beech then saved brilliantly from Lee Smith and on 80 minutes Brady completed his hat-trick.

Brad Gice pulled one back but Tividale held on.

## Heavy rain has Old Hill on rack

OLD HILL firsts suffered a tough weekend in their bid to avoid relegation from cricket's Birmingham League Division One.

Saturday's game at home to Smethwick was abandoned without play.

And the weather robbed them of what looked a likely victory two days later against Coventry & NW.

Coventry were ripped out for just 104 with Dimitri Ratnayake taking 4-23 and Seb Soukup 3-31.

In reply, Old Hill were looking good on 60-1 with Nitesh Patel 33 not out and Mike Hingley unbeaten on 18. But rain then washed out the game.



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# SPORT

**Take Hart**  
Morrison strikes to  
stun the Spurs  
**Page 39**



**Huish now**  
Long silences the  
Yeovil supporters  
**Page 51**



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**Yeltz shot  
up table  
by brace  
from Ben**

**Halesowen Town 2  
Sutton Coldfield Town 1**  
BEN HASELEY'S brace helped Halesowen bounce back to winning ways after their cup defeat and move into the top half of the early season Evo-Stik Northern Division One South table.

The Yeltz looked more comfortable with a change of formation and Warren Brooks almost opened the scoring on his full debut with a 13th minute header from a free-kick.

Haseley put Halesowen into a 53rd minute lead by working behind the home defence and latching onto Ben Steane's long ball to smash confidently past Hathaway.

But Sutton Coldfield worked back into the game and Brendan Kelly rescued Halesowen with a 61st minute goal-line clearance after his goalkeeper Evans lost a cross.

The Royals equalised after 77 minutes when a lack of home concentration allowed Sutton's Kristian Ramsey-Dickson to advance from midfield and exchange passes before laying the ball off the ball for Dean Rathbone to fire home.

With the game heading for a draw, Barnfield pushed forward with three minutes remaining.

The loose ball fell for hitman Haseley to slam the winning goal into the roof of net.

**Darryl enjoys  
day to max**

**Dudley 55 Rye House 16**  
Abandoned after 12 heats,  
result stands

TEENAGER Darryl Ritchings bagged his first National League maximum as the Heathens strengthened their grip on top spot.

A downpour brought an early end to the fun – but not before 18-year-old Ritchings had gone through the card.

He had a helping hand from skipper Adam Roynon in heat six, nursed home brilliantly ahead of Rye's James Sarjeant.

But the rest was all his own work as Dudley had no fewer than five riders unbeaten by an opponent – consolation for Sunday's Fours event at Stoke where they finished third.

**Dudley:** Byron Bekker 11+1, Darryl Ritchings 9+3, Adam Roynon 9, Ashley Morris 8+1, Tom Perry 8+1, Dan Greenwood 5+1, James White Williams 5+1.

**Rye House:** Ben Morley 6, James Sarjeant 4, Shane Hazelden 3+1, Connor Coles 3, Luke Chessell 0, Brad Tockley 0.

## Halesowen dumped out of the cup by Robins

DUDLEY dumped Halesowen out of the FA Cup in one of the shocks of the round.

Grant Joshua stunned the Yeltz with a penalty, and although the home side levelled through a Brendan Kelly free-kick, substitute Rion Francis-Mills capitalised on a defensive error to bag the winner 11 minutes from time in this preliminary round tie.

There was little to choose between the teams at the start of their first meeting since 1996 as Dudley keeper Thomas Harper saved low down from Nathan Jones and former Yeltz favourite Alex Cowley fired across the home goal.

### Halesowen T 1 Dudley T 2

The West Midlands Premier Robins grabbed a 38th-minute lead when Joshua stayed calm to beat Paul Evans with a penalty.

The spot-kick was awarded after Anthony Cox chased Jonathan Watkins' long ball and goalkeeper Evans brought down Cox, despite getting a hand onto the ball.

As Dudley grew in confidence in the face of another unconvincing home display, Steve Edmunds and Brett McGilligan whipped over dangerous crosses and Dreniz Bala was then blocked when free.

A more urgent start to the second half from Halesowen brought a 52nd-minute equaliser.

It came when Kelly smacked a direct free-kick through Dudley's defensive wall after Ross Love was penalised for handling on the edge of the penalty area.

Halesowen briefly began to impose some authority, but chances went begging when Ben Haseley fired wide and was then denied by Harper's good save. Halesowen's best opportunity fell to Ben Steane in the 75th minute, but he blazed a 10-yard rebound over the bar in torrential rain.

Battling Dudley stuck to their task and

were rewarded when Kelly made a dreadful error under no pressure to let in Francis-Mills who tucked a fine finish past Evans.

The rocking Robins held on comfortably to bag another £1,750 of FA prize money.

They are next at home to the winners of the replay between Sporting Khalsa and Nuneaton Griff.

**Halesowen Town:** Evans, Lycett, Caines, Brooks, Kelly, Milligan, Steane, Barnfield, Jones (Brookes 58), Haseley, Griffin (Gueyes 58). **Subs not used:** Smith, Drake, Mulholland, Huckfield, Flower.

**Dudley Town:** Harper, Edmunds, Watkins, Love (Weston 60), Whitley, Cowley (Perry 69), Cox, McGilligan, Bala, Joshua (Francis-Mills 53), Garner. **Subs not used:** Faux, Warner, Arnold, Whittaker. **Attendance:** 295.

**Roaring  
farewell  
as Lyons  
departs**

BRUMMIES speedway legend Jason Lyons said farewell in style at Perry Barr.

A bumper crowd turned out to pay tribute to the Aussie. And they saw Coventry's Grand Prix rider Chris Harris take victory.

Harris pocketed 14 points in his qualifying heats before storming inside Ryan Sullivan in the final to take the title. Belle Vue's Rory Schlein was third but Wolves ace Freddie Lindgren – the only man to beat Harris – was a non-starter in the shoot-out after his bike packed up in his fifth ride.

Elsewhere, Tomasz Jedrzejak and Lindgren's Wolves team-mate Tai Woffinden both had double-figure returns and Brummies new-boy Nico Covatti impressed with a race win.

Lyons said: "I definitely enjoyed it. We had a good turnout, good crowd and Brummies put on a great show.

"In the end I was just really pleased with how everything turned out."

**Result:** 1 Chris Harris, 2 Ryan Sullivan, 3 Rory Schlein. **Scores:** Chris Harris 14, Ryan Sullivan 11, Freddie Lindgren 11, Rory Schlein 11, Tai Woffinden 10, Tomasz Jedrzejak 10, Piotr Protasiewicz 8, Ty Proctor 7, Cameron Woodward 7, Adam Skornicki 6, Davey Watt 6, Nicolas Covatti 6, Rusty Harrison 5, Justin Sedgman 4, Joe Screen 3, Mark Lemon 1.

■ The Selco Birmingham seek to step up their Elite League play-off challenge at Perry Barr tonight when they host Wolves (7.30pm).

Birmingham are at full strength, but the visitors will be without Ricky Wells, who will be riding for Sheffield, and Jacob Thorsell who is involved in the All-Svenskan play-offs in his native Sweden.

Thomas Jorgensen and Ashley Morris step in.

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## FITNESS HOPES HIGH FOR TOFFEES CLASH

**ALBION hope to have a full squad for Saturday's clash with Everton after citing injuries as the reason for 10 changes at Yeovil.**

And they hope to make at least one more move in the transfer market before tomorrow's deadline.

The Baggies progressed to the third round of the Capital One Cup on Tuesday night, despite a scare for their much-changed side at Huish Park.

Assistant boss Keith Downing believes the team missed out at Yeovil, including Jonas Olsson, Liam Ridgeway, Steven Reid and Romelu Lukaku will all recover in time to face the Toffees, along with Peter Odemwingie.

The forward also missed Saturday's draw at Tottenham with a sore groin.

"We had six or seven players with knocks and strains and the medical staff are working hard for Saturday," said Downing.

### Strains

"I should stress there isn't too much seriousness about any of them.

"We felt there was an opportunity to play a strong squad at Yeovil, but it was wise for one or two with strains and bumps to stay at home.

"I don't think Peter's far away. Nearer the weekend we will have a bit more light on the injury, but it's not a serious one so I think he will be very close to being in the squad.

"Romelu had a training ground injury that he sustained on Sunday but the initial thoughts are that he won't be far away."

Downing paid tribute to the depth of the Baggies squad after the much-changed side saw off the League One leaders.

### by Steve Madeley

But he confirmed they still hope to pull off at least one more transfer deal before tomorrow's deadline.

"We're still looking and we're hopeful that we can maybe get another one or two in," said Downing.

"But equally we're happy with the squad and if we don't get any more won't be any major worries.

"We're trying to just finish off for the start of the season, but we showed last night we've got some quality in depth and we're happy.

"It epitomised what we have.

"In the last 15-18 months we have developed a very strong set of players and we call it one group, not the first XI or second XI.

"We all want to progress and we wanted to make sure we went through to the next round, so we were pleased with the guys. It's good to have competition."

Shane Long certainly hopes to face Everton after scoring twice against Yeovil.

"I wanted to play," he said. "I'm used to playing Saturday-Tuesday from my time at Reading and the more games I play, the better I feel on the pitch and the more chances I have to score goals.

"That will build my confidence and I can go into Saturday on a high."

## Unlucky Hughes suffers a touch of the Bends



Bradley Hughes of Halesowen, in action at Cadwell Park. Picture: Mike Lawrence, www.superbikesnapper.co.uk

TEENAGE Halesowen racer Bradley Hughes suffered huge disappointment in the 125cc British championship at Cadwell Park, writes Mike Lawrence.

The 15-year-old slid off the track at Hall Bends after just four laps of the Lincolnshire track.

Free practice and qualifying had gone well with Hughes third in the final session. Times registered in the dry set the grid for the start of the 12-lap race

and put Hughes on the third row. Just as the riders took up their positions, the expected rain arrived and competitors were allowed to switch tyres.

Hughes made a good start and was at the back of a large group of riders all challenging for second place.

But after four laps, he slid from his machine at the tricky Hall Bends section of the course, his first non-finish of the year.

He lost a place in the overall rider standings and is now ninth in the Moto-star Cup and 16th in the Monster Energy British Motostar championship.

The next round of the championship is at Donington Park over the weekend of September 7-9 when Hughes will be chasing a top result to boost his points tally and take him back up the rider standings.

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